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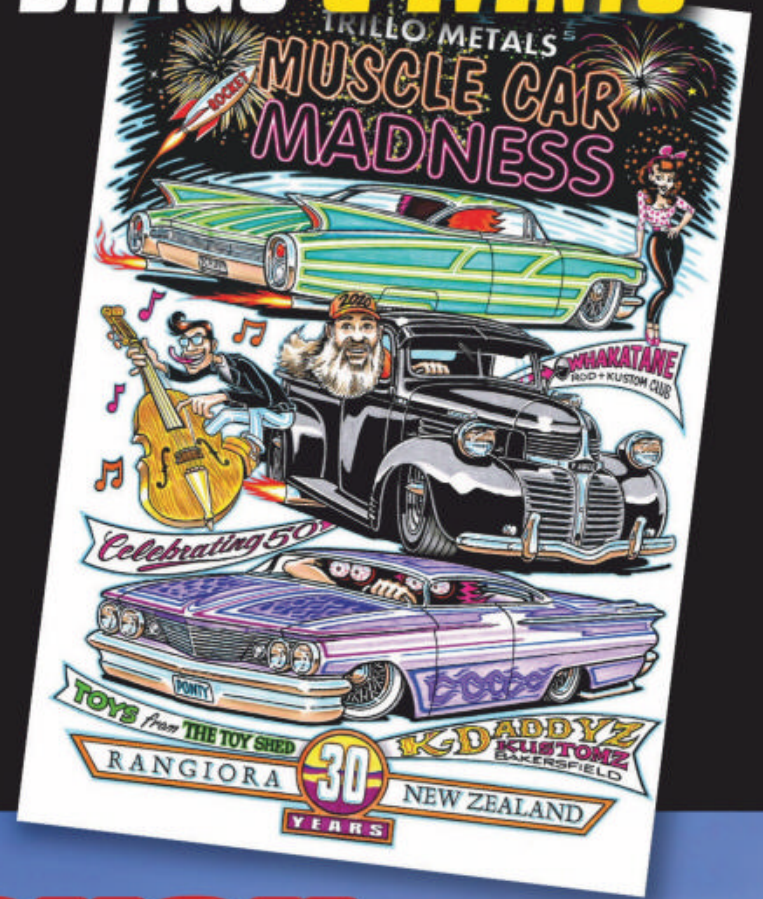
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David Horton's 1940 Ford Pickup at speed in the Port Hills above Christchurch.

Photo: Alastair Ritchie.

CAR FEATURE

42. BLUE BAYOU: David Horton's 1940 Ford Pickup, Cromwell.

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42 David Horton's 1940 Ford Pickup, Cromwell.

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David Horton's 1940 Ford Pickup.

Photo: Alastair Ritchie.

Muscle Car Madness 30th Anniversary artwork
by Darryl McKenzie.



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Publisher's PODIUM

Never a Dull Moment

NEVER in the history of hot rodding has there ever been a tectonic shift a magnitude of what's currently at our feet. The Coronavirus is having a direct knock-on effect of postponing and cancelling or postponing events with a mass gathering of 500 people or more. That means the Beach Hop, Hot Rod Blowout, hot rod breakfasts and other gatherings are affected. Travel plans, accommodation bookings and all ancillary downstream arrangements are all in a state of limbo or straight cancelled. Where does that leave the hot rodder as a consumer? Are we entitled to event entry and accommodation booking refunds? In my mind, a precedent has already been set, and it's no different to a sporting event or musical concert. In the case of a sporting event: if the promoter cancels before the event because of weather, then a full refund is due. If the event goes ahead and is cancelled or abandoned over a quarter of the way through because of rain, or another unforeseen glitch, then the refund is generally not forthcoming. If it's cancelled or abandoned before a quarter, then yes, a refund or ticket to the next event or a rain date should be issued. That's my understanding of how it works and the same applies to a concert. Recently Elton John fell ill over halfway through a live performance and from memory no refund was given, but the following concerts had tickets refunded. So in my opinion; for hot rodders who prepaid entry fees to events cancelled by the Coronavirus mass gathering edict, I think they should be refunded. As for accommodation bookings: I think the provider should retain a booking fee but the balance should be refunded. That's all well and good, but there is a specific clause

used by insurance companies and in contracts titled Force majeure. Force majeure is a term which refers to events that are generally understood to include acts of God, nature, war or government. ... The reason for including a force majeure clause in a contract is to protect the positions of both parties where the specified event occurs, and some or all obligations of either party can't, as a result, be performed: This is where the event can't be held, or the entrant can't attend, or the visitor is unable to follow through on their booking. My question is: does the event entry form or terms and conditions contain a force majeure clause? Same applies for an accommodation provider. If it doesn't, then refunds should be paid, as per my reasoning outlined



above. If terms and condition of the contract of supply does contain a force majeure then perhaps there's a reason not to refund. That reason rests of the shoulders of a question: Is an officially declared global pandemic a force majeure. A pandemic could make it more difficult for parties to perform their obligations under many types of contracts. If one of the parties to a contract is unable to perform as a result of an actual or potential coronavirus outbreak or another pandemic, does the legal doctrine of "force majeure" or "An Act of God" allow the party to suspend performance under a contract or terminate it altogether? In a situation like the coronavirus, the parties' obligations will largely depend on

several factors, and it gets detailed and mired in legalise, so I won't go there in this epistle. You can read more about the business law here: <https://azbigmedia.com/business/law/does-a-pandemic-allow-a-party-to-get-out-of-a-contract/>

It isn't my intention to get deeply involved in the technicalities of cancellation here, merely to point out a few things to think about. From my desk, I can see NZHRM is already affected by the Coronavirus pandemic hype. Many Kiwis have cancelled overseas travel plans, traffic is down in airports and malls, and that's where our magazines sell. That means sales at those locations are down slightly already, and that's most likely from casual or impulse buyers.

For that reason, Liz & I have created a retail sale special promotion where readers can buy a copy of the current issue online from our website and pay just \$10, freight free to their door in New Zealand only. That means you can save a couple of bucks and not leave home. Check it out on our current issue page under Corona Virus Special.

While I've got Liz at the top of my mind, I'll make mention of a very special day in our lives which was yesterday

when we celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary. On the 15th March 1980, we got married and were whisked away from the reception in Lance and Jackie Crane's show-winning 1934 Ford sedan. Since then we've lived a life of fun and adventure and worked together in several businesses, including this one, plus we have two beautiful daughters who we're very proud of. None of it was possible without Liz, so I tip my hat to her with the utmost love and respect because she rocks in so many ways, too many to list here but it's great to know there's a rock to lean on in a dynamic and changing world. That world contains many new tests, but paradoxically many new opportunities. The catalyst of change is in the air; let's embrace it! **PG**





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We appreciate all the effort put in by our crew young and old, helpers and everybody I have forgotten to thank and of course you guys, our MCM family - the entrants and the general public.

P.S. The show must go on, it has not been sold for the third time and good or bad Marty and Craig will battle on! Luv yas all.

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Death Wobble

DEAR ed, A long, long time ago, 1990-ish, John Reid said to me "GB, I think you and I are the only two people in NZ who understand front end geometry". Years before that, I had a 4cyl VC Holden Commodore which had 13" wheels, and I decided to put 14s on it. The only ones with that bolt pattern were HT/HK Holden wheels, but they had a different offset, which I didn't think too much about, but when it came to driving, it was uncontrollable, and when cornering it felt like the tyres were rolling off the inside of the rims! It was absolutely diabolical, so I went back to 13s. I learned a lot from that! Cheers, Grahame Berry.

Future of Hot Rodding

HI PAUL, I enjoy reading your magazine; however, I am concerned that this publication, in conjunction with the NZHRA and the LVVTA, maybe unwittingly killing the sport of hot rodding. My roots are in Los Angeles in the 1950s where the sport originated. Hot rodding was a sport enjoyed by people who often didn't have a lot of money but were able to use their own ingenuity and wrecking yard parts to create a vehicle that was unique to themselves. I contrast this with the vehicles that are now mainly featured in your publication, which usually require a long list of contributors from a burgeoning industry. This is aided and abetted by the LVVTA, which has created an expensive minefield for amateur builders. My son and his generation would love to build a hot rod, but have neither the money nor the inclination to deal with an expensive and time-consuming bureaucracy. Instead, they buy "rice rockets" and modify these, usually without reference to the LVVTA. The focus now appears to be more on the industry and less about the backyard builders who are the real foundation of the sport. The concern here is that the sport, with its current culture of "chequebook hot rodding", may die with the next generation. Kind regards, Bob Drey.

Hi Bob, I can't seem to join your dots which suggest we (NZHRM) are unwittingly killing the sport. I'm all for celebrating hot rodding's diversity and that applies to tastes from mild to wild and spends from turnkey professional builds all the way to homebuilt DIY. We support the youth and recently published coverage of their SideShow event. NZHRA and LVVTA are also mentioned in your letter and while I'm in favour of strong governance and high vehicle standards I support vigorous debate about their effectiveness in their execution, so in that regard you make good points which are echoed by many others so thanks for putting pen to paper. Ed.



Gassing Up

HI PAUL, was flicking through the rod mag at the book shop and spotted the Gassing Up article photos. I took this one in 1972 at Taupo of Stitch Richardson's '34. Tell him I'm alive and well down here on the mainland!!! Cheers Gordon W Smillie.

No Captions

DEAR SIR, I need to bring to your attention an annoying trend which seems to be getting worse. I'm talking about photographs with no captions, and the March issue was the worst yet. If the photos have captions the reader studies the photos more. With



Letter of the month this month goes to **Peter Whittaker** who's won this month's prize of Rislone Hy-Per Lube Oil Supplement.

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no caption we tend to just flip through the magazine, which just looks like a kid's scrapbook. This could be the decider on whether I spend \$12 at the supermarket, or not! Is adding captions really so hard? The first 50 years have been fine, but lately.... Please print this to see what others think.

Yours, Pete Whittaker.

Thanks for your feedback Pete, much appreciated and very pertinent and timely. One of the problems with creating captions is writing something meaningful, like the owner's name, and year, make and model of the vehicle. In my opinion, just naming the year and make of car is a bit sterile. In NZ we are experiencing strong growth within the hobby which means there are many new cars and new owners on the scene, the majority of them are unknown to me or our freelance correspondents.. When I attend events here in NZ, invariably the owners are not near their cars and there are

no ID cards on the windshield.

In stark contrast, event promoters in the USA ask car owners to fill out a small ID card and place it inside the windscreen. When I spot a car to photograph I take a shot of the car, then one of the ID card for later use writing

a caption. What that means is that I can attend an event in the USA with 12,000 hot rods entered and write captions for all them with ease. If there's no ID card available or if the photographer forgets to shoot the ID card it is possible to write something generic, and sometimes I do. By comparison, here in NZ some Kiwi event promoters have great ID cards and systems with records while others have none. At a big event, in the face of a sea of cars with no information, it's easy to get writer's block and it becomes quite a task to create 80



Rare Birds

HELLO again rodders, I've read March 2020 issue and on page 38 is a photo of a 1938 Ford standard convertible attending the Black Swamp Run. I've found a photo of a 1938 Ford deluxe convertible painted in Washington Blue taken at an All Ford Day just out of Dunedin about 20 years ago. I wonder how rare these convertibles are? Also the feature on Mike Courtney's 1934 Hupmobile 3-window coupe: This is the vehicle body style that I sent a photo taken at a rod run in Australia and published in NZHRM a few issues back. That car had a Ford grille, guards and side panels. Still enjoying the magazine.

Regards, Ty Hepburn, Nelson.

or so captions. March issue copped coverage of three of those events which is unfortunate. (Black Swamp Run, Kumeu Hot Rod & Classic Car Show, and Rodders Festival in Orewa. I have contacted Black Swamp's Sandra Brunt and Rodder's Festival's Sharon Morris and offered my suggestions about introducing an ID card, so I have done my best but in the end, how they run their event is completely up to them. In this new April issue we have massive event coverage and have most of it covered. I take responsibility but to make things interesting for readers I need help from event promoters or if you'd like to lend a hand sometime, then please contact me by email. In the meantime, I hope you continue to enjoy our hobby and our reporting and recording of it through these pages. You make good points, thanks for writing in.

Department of Corrections

Sword Swallower

I MUST be geographically challenged because in last month's editorial I wrote about our daughter Nadine and I cruising to Dansey's Pass in Craig Stare's deuce tudor. Dansey's Pass was incorrect, and we were heading to Ashley Gorge. I had mixed up Dansey's Pass with Ashley Gorge and got my wires crossed. A couple of eagle-eyed readers on the mainland (south island) spotted it, and kindly let me know. Time for me to fall on my sword, Ed.

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comments and letters!**

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Just in PASSING



➤ Opposite lock!

SPOTTED at So Cal Sacramento one Saturday morning during a FAST four-banger meeting was this funky narrowed T modified. Begging for some opposite lock action, this cute little T featured brilliant engineering and detail. Looks like some low buck but high creativity fun!



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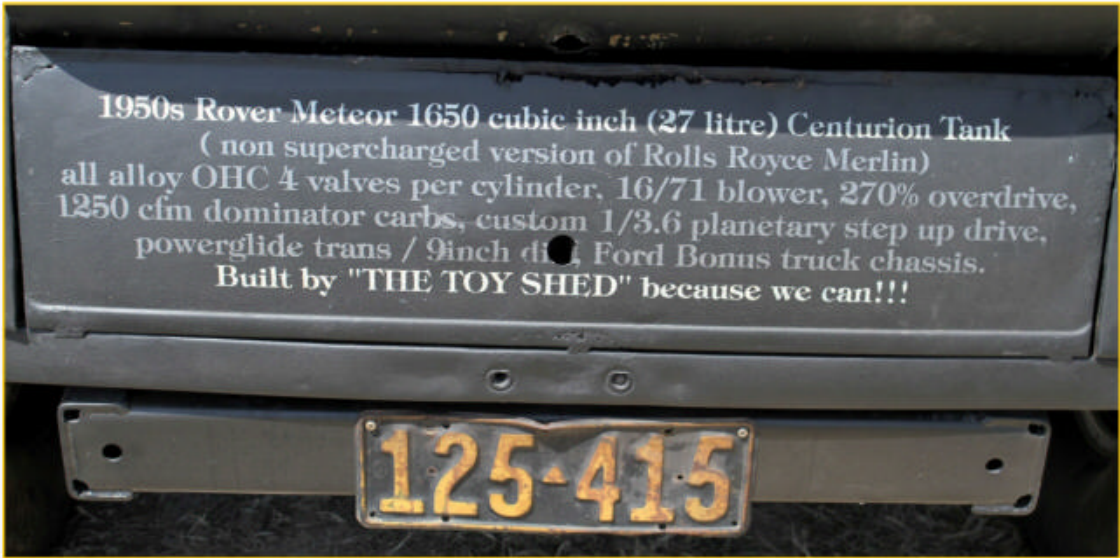


➤ Buried Treasure

HERE’S another one for the magazine ‘buried treasure’ file. A lot of people ask me to ‘source’ cars for them in America, and I always ask them if they’ve looked locally first. They usually answer.....”oh fkuc no, you’d never find one of those here.....!!!” We were talking ‘34 3-window coupes at MCM last month, and I replied that I was really surprised that no one had bought Brian Fairchild’s one. WHO?..... was pretty much the collective response. Ultimately, the result of that conversation was the car changing hands, and I figured it would make a cool story!

From Squeak.

We sent a message to the new owner Tom Thompson via email but as we went to press had no reply so when the stars finally align we’ll bring the sequel, Ed.



➤ Because We Can

THE spec sheet on Russell Lowes (Toy Shop) Model a coupe is certainly interesting reading.



➤ **Capturing my Youth**

THE story of Bob Neville's "Lucky 17" Model A speedster continues to evolve. Maintained and improved by GMS Hot Rods, this little car does it all from car shows, and rod runs to drag racing and circuit racing to Leadfoot Festival, Art Deco weekend and also the Beach Hop. Last month at the Leadfoot Festival hosted on Rod & Shelly Millen's Leadfoot Ranch; Bob unintentionally took a hair-raising ride up the hill. With the vintage era of vehicles, you are encouraged to dress to the occasion and you can either make a timed run or demonstration run. So a demo run it was with Bob in a bowler hat and his wife Julie with her handbag and pearls they set off up the hill. Aggravated by a wasp sting (three times in fact) Bob lost concentration on one corner coming in too wide putting the car over the edge. With some opposite lock applied Bob smashed the throttle pedal to bring the car back up on the track not to hit any trees. Gary Zahra's photography shows Lucky 17 leap-frogging back on track with oil gushing out of the sump as it wiped out on the kerbing. The good news is the damage was minimal, and Bob & Julie were not harmed in this incident. "I am thankful for the work Greg at GMS Hot Rods has done on the car and also all the people at the Leadfoot Festival for looking after us. As a boy, I was captivated by the free-spirited motoring of board track racers, Burt Munro and very early road racing. The gentleman drivers and the dangers and innocence of that era of motor racing left an impression. We signed the waivers at Leadfoot and knew the risks, and in my crazy way I relived a bit of history which captivated my youth", says Bob.

From Greg Stokes.



➤ **Past Times**

LIZ Grace was reminiscing with the old truck. "Had one just like it". Note matching wardrobe. Graeme Trillo is the owner.



➤ **Kudos**

MIKE Curtis (USA) came up on stage to announce that he thought MCM was the best show in the world. Craig Stare said he would keep going 'til he died- yes both had been drinking heavily!!! *JE.*



➤ **Crazy**

THE crazy multi-coloured pinstriping on Tich Findlay's 1956 Chev Gasser was done at MCM by 'Stace the Ace'.

➤ **1001 Custom & Rod Ideas**
From Bruce Taylor



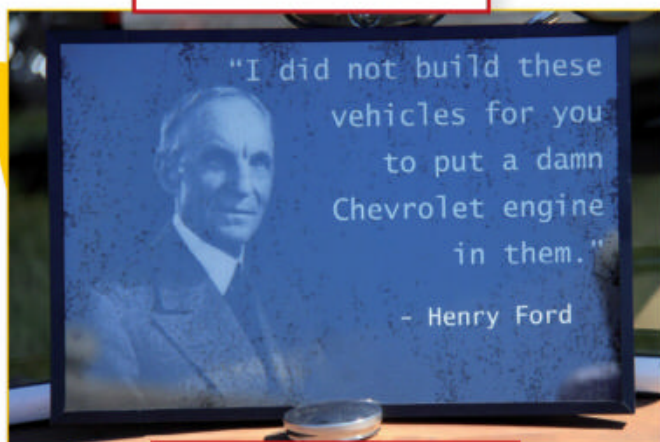
Industrial stainless-steel mesh looks right at home in this Model A grille. BT.



Custom front bumper has two purposes. Not only does it give the car a unique custom look, but it allows more air to flow through the radiator. BT.



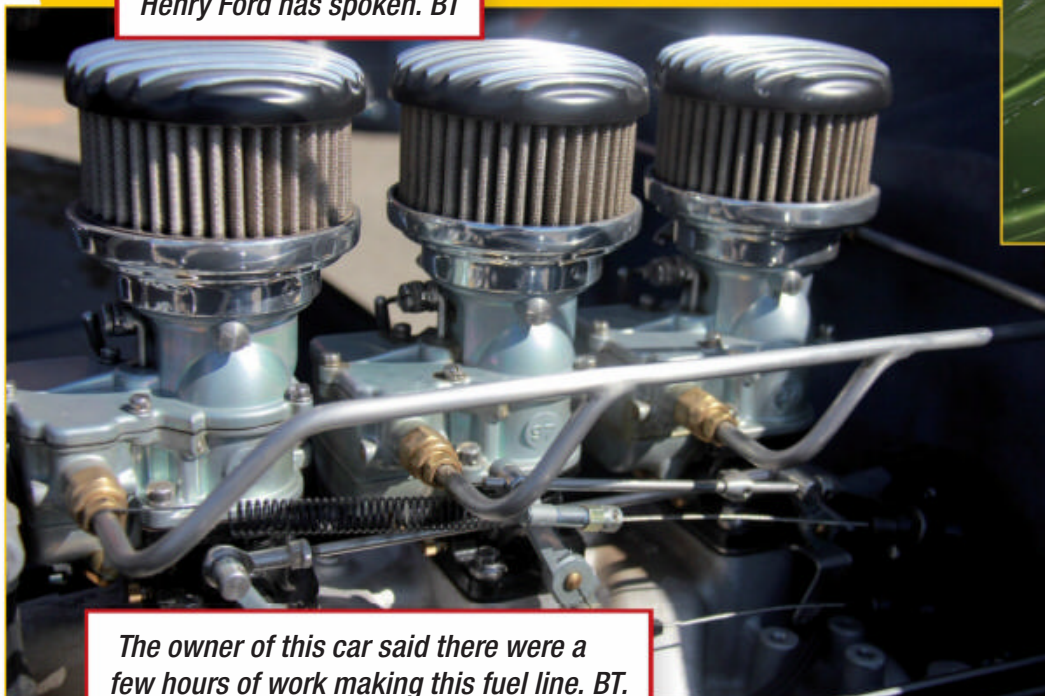
1946-48 Ford V8 taillights mounted vertically. BT.



Henry Ford has spoken. BT



If you own a '36 coupe and are considering making it into a custom you might consider installing a 1946 Packard grille. BT.



The owner of this car said there were a few hours of work making this fuel line. BT.



If you are building a Model A Tudor with an early '60s look then covering the running boards in this style will make it really stand out. BT.



Tailgate artwork raises awareness of a common problem. BT.



Not sure that it would be a great idea cruising around Dallas Texas with this plate on your car. Particularly if it was on a 1963 Lincoln Continental. 187 is the police code for homicide and JFK is of course the late John F Kennedy who was assassinated in an open Lincoln Continental. BT.



If you are running Stromberg 97's on an old race car you could trim the top off to supposedly increasing the volume of air. There are various opinions as to whether there is a great benefit but it looks the part. BT.



Spotted under the hood of a Thunderbolt clone at Muscle Car Madness. BT.



You don't have to spend large amounts of money on a Coke or Pepsi ice chest when you can buy or find just an ordinary chest and paint and pinstripe it to match your car. And just to make it really different add a logo such as "Wrecking Ball Crew" on this one. BT.



Hibiscus Rodders Club members hand over their \$70,000 cheque to the Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust. In front, holding the cheque, from left: Shane Bennett, John Hooper, Sharon Morris.

➤ **Classy cars earn big bucks for chopper rescues**

A CONVOY of classy cars travelled from Orewa to Ardmore Airport on March 1 to deliver a big cheque to the Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust (ARHT). The money was raised by the Hibiscus Rodders Club's annual Rodders Beach Festival at Orewa on Auckland Anniversary Weekend. The \$70,000 donated was \$10,000 more than last year's record-breaking \$60,000, and a huge leap up from the \$3750 raised for the rescue helicopters at the first festival in 2010. Accepting the cheque, John Hooper, the Trust's general manager of marketing and fundraising, thanked the Hibiscus Rodders Club and said he had entered the club in the 2019 New Zealander of the Year Community section, because of the excellent work it does in raising funds for rescues. "Your festival is one of the most significant community events that we're involved within Auckland," John told club members who'd come along to support the handing over of the cheque by club president Shane Bennett and show co-ordinator Sharon Morris. * If you'd like to help fund the next rescue, go to rescuehelicopter.org.nz or to make a \$3 donation text chopper to 8663.



➤ **200 MPH at Last**

AFTER a drag racing career which began in 1983 with a smallblock Fiat Topolino Altered running 10-second ETs, The Anthill Mob's current Funny Car, with Bill Minchington behind the wheel, ran 200.54 mph at Masterton Motorplex in February, thereby joining NZ Hot Rod Magazine's exclusive 200 mph club and earning a revered red 200 mph hat. All going well, Clinton Minchington should be next, in the same car, and his best so far is 199 mph! Bill and Clinton alternate the Funny Car driving duties by the toss of a coin at each race meet. And let's not forget Stu Minchington of the Anthill Mob, with his smallblock '23 T Altered, soon to get a big block. Stu's a young drag racer with an already formidable past and a great future. Meantime, our congrats go to Bill Minchington. A profile feature on The Anthill Mob will be forthcoming shortly. Photos show Bill Minchington with NZHRM 200 hat, and a special cake to mark the occasion.

From John Eva.



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1776cc VW and will be used as a
business promotional vehicle for
Glenn's new Good George Brewing
restaurant which will open around
September in Whakatane. Currently,
it's in the shop for a repaint to
electric orange, so we're sure it'll
be a top transporter is short order.



➤ **Sleeper**

RICHIE Malam bought this rare and
collectible '67, Plymouth Belvedere
from Squeak Bell who came across it
in Alameda, California where it had
resided in a private collection for some
time. Shipping to NZ was handled by
Chuck's. Don't be fooled by those plain
Jane looks; this car is no whimpish
grocery getter. Under the hood resides
its original 425hp 426ci Hemi engine
backed by its original 4-speed trans.
The only creature comfort options this
car has are radio and heater, and the
best part is the vehicle has travelled a
mere 15,000 miles. A real gem and gold
nugget in Richies growing collection.



➤ **Royal Purple**

THIS '40 Ford deluxe tudor sedan was imported by Tania Jones and shipped into
Dunedin. She purchased it at the San Diego swap meet late last year. The cool tudor
has a history and association with Mooneyes family. The drivetrain consists of a trusted
350/350, nine-inch combo while a Mustang II front end smoothes out the bumps.

*If you have a New Arrival you'd like to share with our readers then drop us a line at
09 432 1270 or email paul@nzhotrodmag.co.nz. We'd love to hear from you.*



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Diversity was the key at Model A Day from dead stock to full blown hot rod and everything in between.



George Wallbank's Model A coupe is a recent build from Mac's Speed Shop with a SCOT blown flattie for power.



First rodged by Terry Vaughan in the sixties, then owned by Neil Roper and for over the last 40 years owned by Wayne Bishop, this Model A tourer has been to the moon and back a few times. Alongside it is Chris Piaggi's roadster pickup from the Scroungers.



Alex McLennan's Model A pickup runs a stout smallblock Chev while Chris Hornblow's 409 powered Model A coupe is as staunch as it looks.

Model A Day

By Greg Stokes

WHAT a way to celebrate the last official day of summer with a gathering of 40 Model A Ford vehicles from barn fresh to restored original through to mildly to wildly hot rodged? Organised by Chris Hornblow and Shane Adlington, the formula was simple. An informal gathering at Chris and Raewyn's Oratia, West Auckland property, bring a plate and bring your own refreshments. No admission fees, no formalities and no awards - just laid back Model A fun as it should be. With a smattering of dead stock originals pattering in, where else could you find a diverse mix of vehicles? Four bangers, a Riley four-port, a SCOT blown flattie V8, a Lincoln V12, an Olds Rocket, a Y-block and a 409 W engine were all present and accounted for. At the other end of the spectrum was Ian Taylor's show quality "BILIT" built by John Reid which debuted in 1992! Aside from the Troublebound BBQ running for most of the evening and the no-nonsense socialising, other activities included a Model A hill climb and a Model A centipede! It is sounding like it's going to happen all again next year, Model As get preferred parking on the back lawn and if you bring something else: park it out of sight.



Mac's Speed Shop's Graeme McNeill showed up with his Riley 4-port powered closed cab in fenderless guise alongside Bob Lewin's dead stock roadster pickup which he drives the wheels off.



The fantastic setting at Chris & Raewyn's Oratia property made for a laidback atmosphere.



Ian Taylor's "BILIT" alongside Woody Whitehouse's Model A roadster pickup which he first hot rodded in the sixties - its still Y-block powered too.



From Troublebound, Kirstin Courtney built her Model A roadster pickup herself and drives it everywhere including the Nostalgia Drags and other events. Alongside is Mark Kane's ownerbuilt Lincoln V12 powered roadster which he has plenty of miles on it too.



Russell Barry isn't afraid to drive his very cool roadster with a Winfield head on the banger engine.

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Photos Courtesy of Eric Gelsert.

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Twizel Show-N-Shine

Brought to you by Placemakers Timaru/Twizel on March 6,7,8.

Report by Craig Stare

A FEW months ago, I got a call from the organiser of this all-makes car show asking me to be the celebrity judge. Having never been a celebrity anything I quickly accepted. The hospitality by the organiser Peter (Doc) Docherty and wife Eiris towards everybody was fantastic.

Friday night saw a grand parade around Twizel's housing area and other points of interest. The event is based around the Combined services club which Doc is the president. Good weather greeted all on the Saturday with 160 plus cars and a handful of trucks and motorcycles and a great busker (singer) entertained all. Prizegiving was held at the club followed by a social function. The next day, light rain developed, and the poker run had dwindled to 40 cars in attendance which was followed by a farewell barbecue lunch. Well done to all involved.



Graham Strathern's Pontiac Catalina was tidy and an unusual car here.



Christchurch man Royden Bonney made his maiden voyage in his tri-powered 410 Ford-powered 1962 Ford Galaxie



Recently finished all-steel 1934 Ford coupe hi-boy belongs to Graeme Cooper from Americans and featured a blown smallblock Chev for power.



When did you see one of these. Twizel man Wayne Laverly owns this 1967 428 Ford Thunderbird which deservedly made the Top Ten.



1965 Buick Wildcat ran a big block Chev and was nice and close to the ground.



This 1957 Ford has 292 Y block, 5-speed manual trans, 4-wheel discs and a Jaguar independent rear end. Norm Geary won Long distance travelling down from Nelson.



None of these seems to be Tom Clements!! This bunch of ladies had a ball in extremely rare 1940 Australian-made Vauxhall tourer.



Peter Casy displayed his real 'barn find' 1947 Mercury sedan. Amazing to see the odd one still being discovered.



Lindsay Pauling from Dunedin entered his XY, GT Falcon.



Top car of the show was Nev Barker with his "design in overdrive" 1961 Chrysler Imperial with electric everything from Christchurch.



Brian Cornelli won Best Daily Driver award with his 6-cylinder 1962 Chevrolet Biscayne which he found in Arizona.



This bunch of Fords drove together from Christchurch to Twizel for their annual show all FE powered; one even went fast enough for a speeding ticket!

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The First NZ T-Bucket Nationals

February 2020

From John Eva

THE First NZ T Bucket Nationals was held in Christchurch in February, hosted by the NZ T Bucket Alliance (NZ chapter of an American organisation), with guests from USA, Australia and Japan, and 24 registered T-buckets from all over the country, each and every one receiving a Participant's Trophy, and every overseas entrant receiving a flag signed by everyone entered. Sponsorship came from CRC and Academy Signs.

When the T-bucket craze took off in the '70s and '80s, over 600 'glass bodies' were produced here in NZ, with over 400 made by Glass Repros. Local Rod Benders' members Dan and Julie Mulrooney have a Bucket each, and they were instrumental in organising this inaugural event, which used Rod Benders' club rooms as home base with runs each day, a show 'n shine (until it rained), shed raids, evening socials, and a lucky draw for a trip to attend the US National T Bucket Nats in 2021.

As for the 2nd NZ T Bucket Nats? Dan and Julie have been asked to do it again in 2022. Put it on your bucket list! Check out their Facebook page on NZTBANZ Chapter.

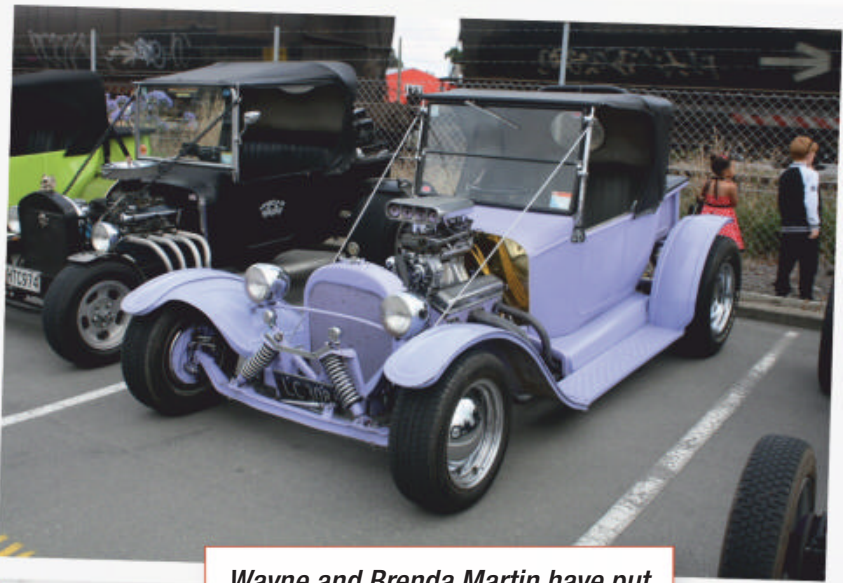


Paul Richardson from Gore uses early Chevy grille, 350 power with twin 4s.



Craig Maylam's '23 T looks sharp in red candy and chromies.

Graham and Yvonne Brooker's '26 T has opening doors, Model A grille, 308 Holden power. From Marineland, Napier.



Wayne and Brenda Martin have put many miles on their full fendered T.



Steve Baldwin drove down from Auckland, one of several Ts using wheelie bars.



They came from far and wide! Chris Ward from Arizona, USA (left), and Rob Goulding from Queensland Australia.



Hamish Forbes from Rod Benders has profile-cut flames on red '23.



Another brave Aucklander was Todd Bricknell with Ford power and a half-screen.



Mac MacDonald's T has Ford power and a checkered firewall.



Tribal flames and Ford power for Rangiora's Paul Storer.



Here's Julie Mulrooney in her Betty Boop Bucket.



Bit of history here. Geoff Dell and Eric Eaves with their Buckets. In the '80s, these Ts were raced by Maude Fairbairn and Rob Kennard!



Dan Mulrooney's T uses tunnel ram Chevy and tasty flames.

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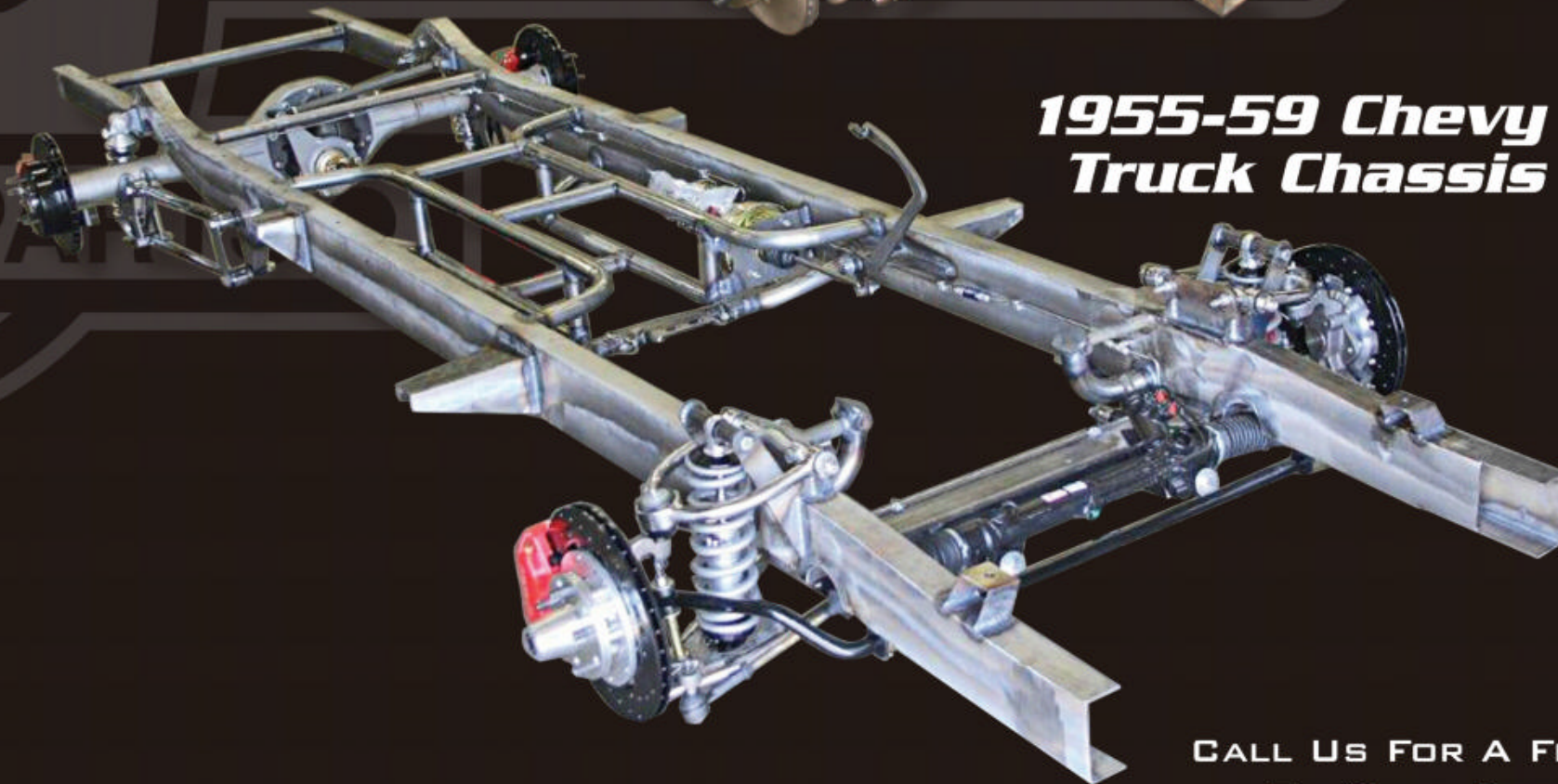
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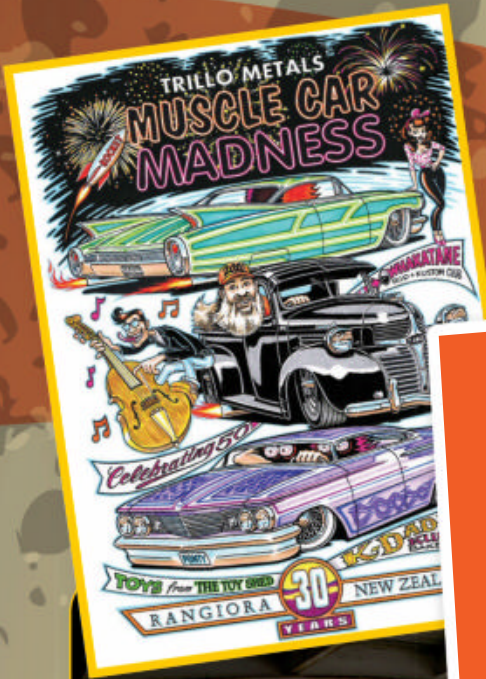
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MUSCLE CAR MADNESS #30

MORE THAN A CAR SHOW



1991: 44 cars and 88 campers
2020: 1,836 cars and 2,500 campers

Photos by Alastair Ritchie, Craig Stare, Bruce Taylor,
John Eva, Paul Grace and Marty Bailey

FOR those of you who have never been to a Muscle Car Madness and in particular, those living in the North Island here is a Northerner's perspective of this iconic event.

It had been so long since I had attended Muscle Car Madness you may as well have called me a "virgin" to the event. It was now way bigger, and the word Madness as part of the name of the event was certainly appropriate. I was in the group of 29 members and partners from the Whakatane Rod & Custom Club who decided that the 30th Anniversary of the event was a good enough reason to go. On the Thursday morning of the event, there were probably 200 cars waiting to board the 10 o'clock Cook Strait sailing. You knew then that it was going to be a big event.

The things that make this event different is that it is just not another car event, and you can see why people just keep returning to camp in the same spot year after year. They are in a hurry to get there, and half of them don't appear to be in a rush to leave. Come four o'clock on Sunday afternoon it looked like only half the campers had left. You ask if they have work the next day and it is a yeah/nah but Sunday nights are always good here.

The evening entertainment is something else. The Thursday night Burlesque Show was rated R18 and was a world-class act...certainly something you would likely see in Las Vegas. The High School bands just illustrated



Great burgers served from a Mad Max-style, car-orientated food truck. It was built especially for MCM.



Leaving the high school on Thursday night: 200 plus cars created an anniversary cruise which took in the main streets of Rangiora and Kaiapoi. PG



Andy Blanchard had a rental 1958 Chevrolet Impala for the weekend. Some people have all the luck. PG



The most switched-on kid at the event was supplying 45 laps around the camp on his Uber Guber (no site fee paid I might add). He won Best Kid's Kroozer if we can work out who he was! PG



Most of the cruise saw cars going in both directions, shown here on Rangiora's High street. PG



Kevin Patrick arrived at the Friday run wearing appropriate safety headgear.



Sue Vowell's 1958 Chevrolet Yeoman parked up at Ashley Gorge.



How rare is this genuine original paint 1933 Willys tourer, only 150 made in 1933. Was even seen doing a few "not fast" laps of the camp. PG

the immense talent that some young musicians have, and it is deemed an honour for these bands to be able to get up on stage and perform in front of a wide age range of people. And then there were the overseas acts. You just can't pop down to your local bar and listen to the distinct sound of The Flying Saucers from Australia or genuine rockabilly from the US.

The other evening entertainment is the cruising or perhaps more broadly speaking the passing by of the wacky or ridiculous. And rust has obviously never slept in this part of the country looking at the condition of some of the cars driving past. You just set up your deck chair open up a cold beer and enjoy the atmosphere. The age range is somewhat blurred. Zero to old...as in very



Harry Orpwood's NZ-new, all-steel 1932 Ford roadster has a great story (coming soon) and was put together in a few short months after a 50-year hiatus! PG



Kendal Smith's recently finished 1940 Ford coupe powered by a blown Hemi no less.



Just arrived, all the way from Hurricanes Rodders in Dunedin Wayne Nicol bought a carload through in the maiden voyage of his 1958 Edsel Villager, which was made legal just the day before!



The Retro Run got a special treat, a guided tour of Chris Leigh's early Ford collection.



V8 powered Triumph Herald "Funny Car" featured an extended front. They had a ball all weekend, and it's certainly different.



Three Creeks always has an interesting display; everything is for sale as well.



Turquoise was the only colour allowed in this camping area.



One of the few low-riders in attendance.

old. That is because some of the young guns first attended this event in a cot and owners of vintage cars don't feel out of place—one big happy family.

It is truly entertaining, and this spectacle brings out all types of vehicles which almost overshadows the really good cars. The spa pool car was built for no other purpose than to cruise at Muscle Car Madness and nor was the "boat car". The motorbike cruising past powered by a single-cylinder Lister stationary engine proved to onlookers that it was actually ridden.

If you like Chrysler Valiants you will never see more in one place than at this event. And it seemed that everyone appreciates that people all have very different tastes and objectives in life.

There was an interesting variety of cars in the public display and lots of cool cars from the bottom of the country that you will probably never see in the North Island. Another good reason to attend this event. Yet it was the trade displays with current workshop projects on display that caught the North Islanders

attention. There are obviously some very fine craftsmen down south.

The pub crawl bus trips are so popular that they sell out every year. I was advised to have my camera ready when the buses arrived back as there would be some good photo opportunities for this magazine article. It must have been very hot inside those Bedford bus's as people were getting off who had taken off most of their clothing. Yep, got some photos, not suitable for publication and I thought they are all probably someone's mother. That's where the Madness comes in.

SS Tempest was back again from its 8-year old at the helm to the nun in the back giving "the last rights". Even had an iceberg spotter on board.



Brodie Smith from Northland won Long Distance with 1958 Chevrolet wagon.



Built-in a few weeks this 'Sherpa' van ran a blown V8 engine. No accounting for taste, or lack of it. We loved it to death.



The Hillbilly Hellcats returned from Colorado with their infectious rockabilly style.



Tasha Collins 1955 Chev Nomad is a showstopper and won a Top Ten and Best Chev. Kruisin' Kustoms built it.



One of the last shots of Phil Webber's 1938 Chev drag car before its horrific crash on the Sunday at Ruapuna.



Burnout? in a shortened Italian job mini. MCM encourages the fun aspect.



All ages enjoy cruising; gran is babysitting the kids!



Jonny Gilbert's first showing of his 1958 Mercury Voyager from Timaru.



Bradley May from the deep south now runs a blower on chopped early Falcon.



Louie O'Donnell has been working very hard to get his Mercury to the show and was rewarded with Best Potential award.



Tony Brunt's hot pink HQ Holden was super detailed, and you certainly saw it coming with noise to match.



One of the many cars to drive down from Auckland was Simon Clemments' NZ-new, ALL steel '32 Ford tudor powered by a big block Chevrolet.



John Gray bought Ben Johnson's Red Dawson replica '38 Willys coupe and changed it to gasser style and was for sale.



Runner up in Best Mopar was Matt Jukic utilising a 1968 Charger, his chopper took first place in Best Chopper.



Ang Bland travelled down in one of the nicest 1961 Ford Sunliners in the land. The car is RHD from new and comes from Wellington.



Josh Trybula's latest is this real slick, satin black chopped 1941 Buick coupe. Won the Rodders choice (Silvester V8) and a top Ten



"Way kool" award went to Tony house with his "Rolling Bones" style '32 3-window.



Herby was back with both tractors. This twin-engined one has one Ford and one Chev V8, so there are no arguments!!.



Mike Wynands purchased the ex Bill Wright (R.I.P.) '34 Ford roadster with big block Chev power. This thirty-year project now finally drives.



Rewind 25 plus years ago and "Redrat", the blown big block Chev powered Holden was the top car for around five years in a row. Still looks perfect.



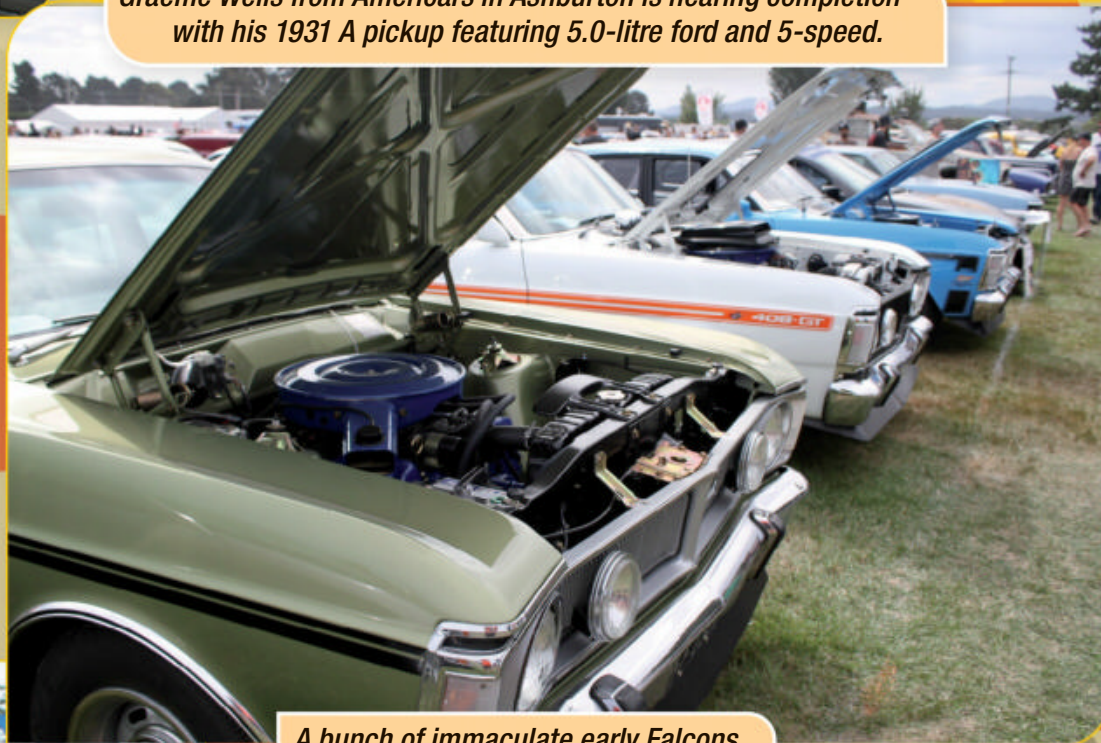
Ben Lucas' Chev pickup is another creation to come out of the 185 restorations shop. 350 Chev, Art Morrison front end.



Graeme Wells from Americars in Ashburton is nearing completion with his 1931 A pickup featuring 5.0-litre ford and 5-speed.



Adam Thompson's FAT BOX 2 features a chopped roof, and channelled body over owner made space frame and good for low nines on its first runs.



A bunch of immaculate early Falcons.



Best Holden and a Top Ten award went to Clinton Wheeler all the way from Whangarei with his magnificent early holden panel van, a world-class build.



Our local MCM rubbish disposal man (Takes away our mess thanks) john Crowe started out displaying Japanese cars in our early days. These days he has this lovely 1964 Chevrolet wagon.



Russell Long (Toy Shed) bought along with many cars; there were 44 of them! This a coupe is powered by a 16-71 supercharged 1,650 cubic inch Rolls Royce Merlin engine and was driving it everywhere



How cool is this Rambler wagon, certainly made a statement and runs with local North Canterbury rodders.



Ian Paki has done it again with a Top Ten placing with his new race-inspired 1963 Pontiac build. Garden City Rodders.



Tich Findlay resorted back to his famous custom painting talent to create his sixties influenced 1956 Chev 4-door h/top.



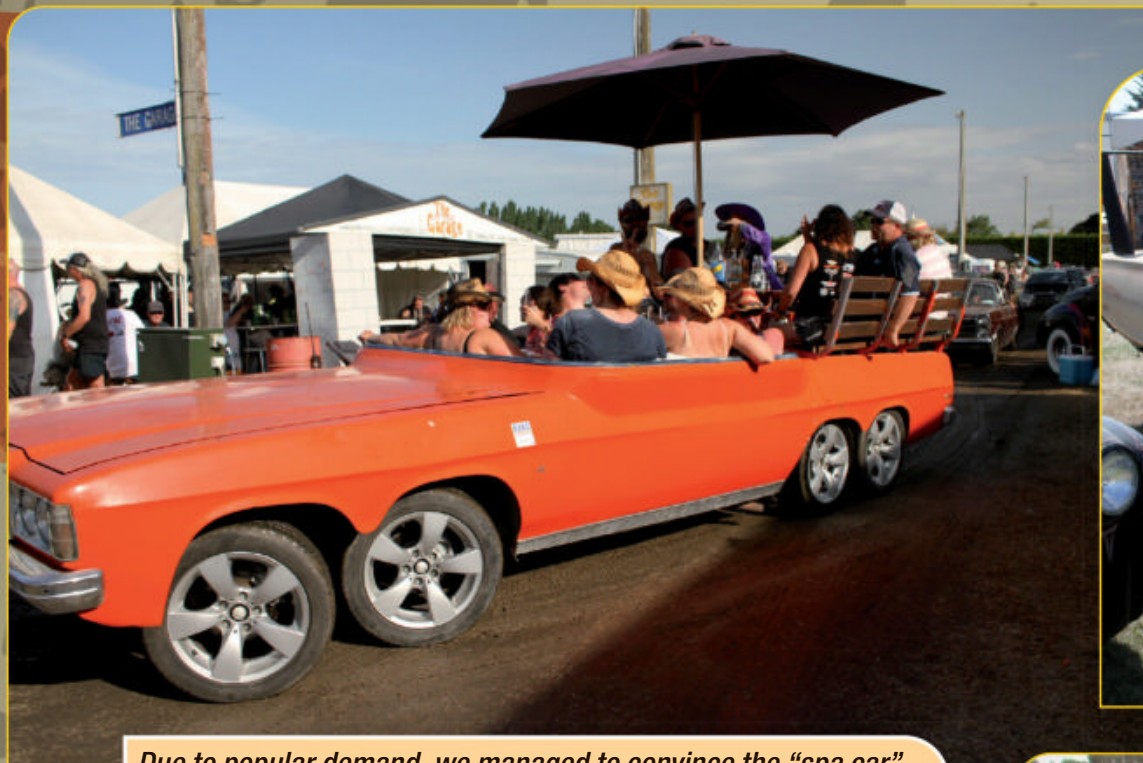
2nd fastest streetcar in the land: Brendan Shearing was seen intimidating campers and policemen alike with his huge horsepower twin-turbocharged b/b Chev powered Holden. You always knew his exact location.



High school band "Class Disruption" certainly showed their talents, very well received.



The winners and judges of the beauty pageant. BT



Due to popular demand, we managed to convince the "spa car" creators to return to help celebrate the festivities. Thanks for that.



Only Ben Johnson could be behind this authentic replica of a Superbird built from old fridges and a Vanguard!!



"The Toy Shed approacheth" The truck in front runs a Detroit diesel for power, The a coupe a Rolls Royce Merlin! BT



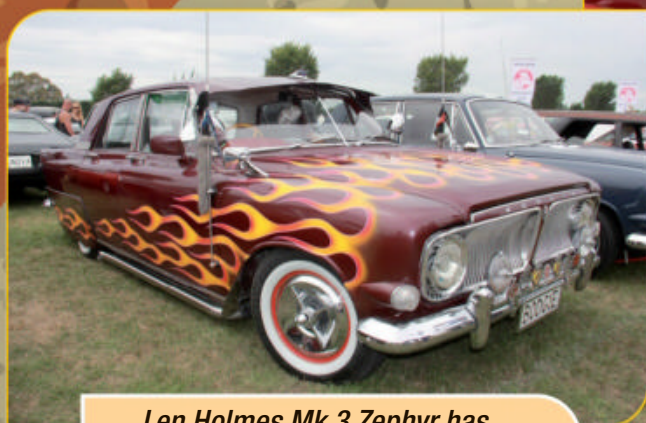
This 1940 deluxe Ford coupe belongs to Colin Willoughby, runs a dressed 59a flathead, driven only 47,000- miles and for sale. BT



One vehicle to catch the eye of many North islanders was Deane Crocker's Hurricanes-based 1948 Chev pickup. BT



185 restorations are making a name for themselves with builds like this Barracuda that features excellent metalwork. BT



Len Holmes Mk 3 Zephyr has multiple everything, skirts, spots, mirrors all from the days of the past. BT



Relaxing at the camp, knowing you have the fastest "coffee table-yeah right" of the entire complex.



Some entrants just don't like tents - the next step up? Taking it a bit far, really! BT



A pair of the originals (30 years), Liz and Builda wearing matching No 3 (1993) event t-shirts. BT



Only at MCM would you see Star Wars revisited thanks to the creative mind and talents of local custom artist Elvis BT



To make her dreams come true Ethyl Norris bought a cushion which featured Craig on it. She reckons she always wanted to "sit on his face".



Don Hoff's recently finished, LS1 powered 1936 Ford pickup ticked all the right boxes. JE



Imagine seeing this 1962 Chevrolet in your rearview mirror.



Bob Omelvena attended in his 1964 Dodge Polara from Lawrence. JE



The ever popular Flyin' Saucers from Melbourne. JE



Max Cull has been a regular at MCM for decades and most of that time driving his 1958 Ford Custom 300. JE



Really staunch 427 powered 1961 Ford Starliner was part of the Penetrators from way up north. JE



Just having fun! AR



How many people can you fit into a Fairlane Compact AR



One of the Best Day entry cars was Kerry Walsh's perfect 1946 ford coupe. PG



Grant Findlay's 1951 Buick custom is timeless and a Top Ten car. AR



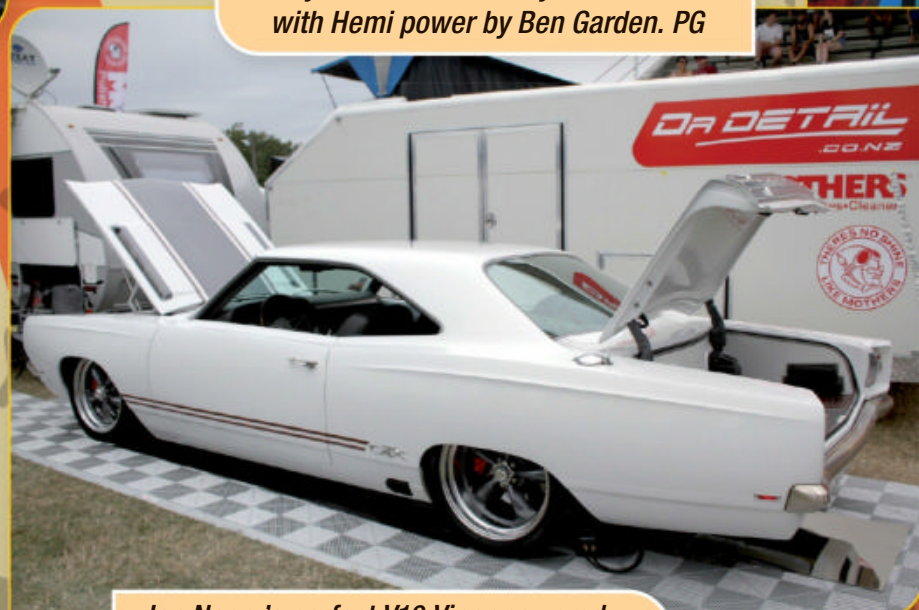
This 1937 Ford cabriolet is owned by Roy Rawson. Family and friends were utilising it. AR



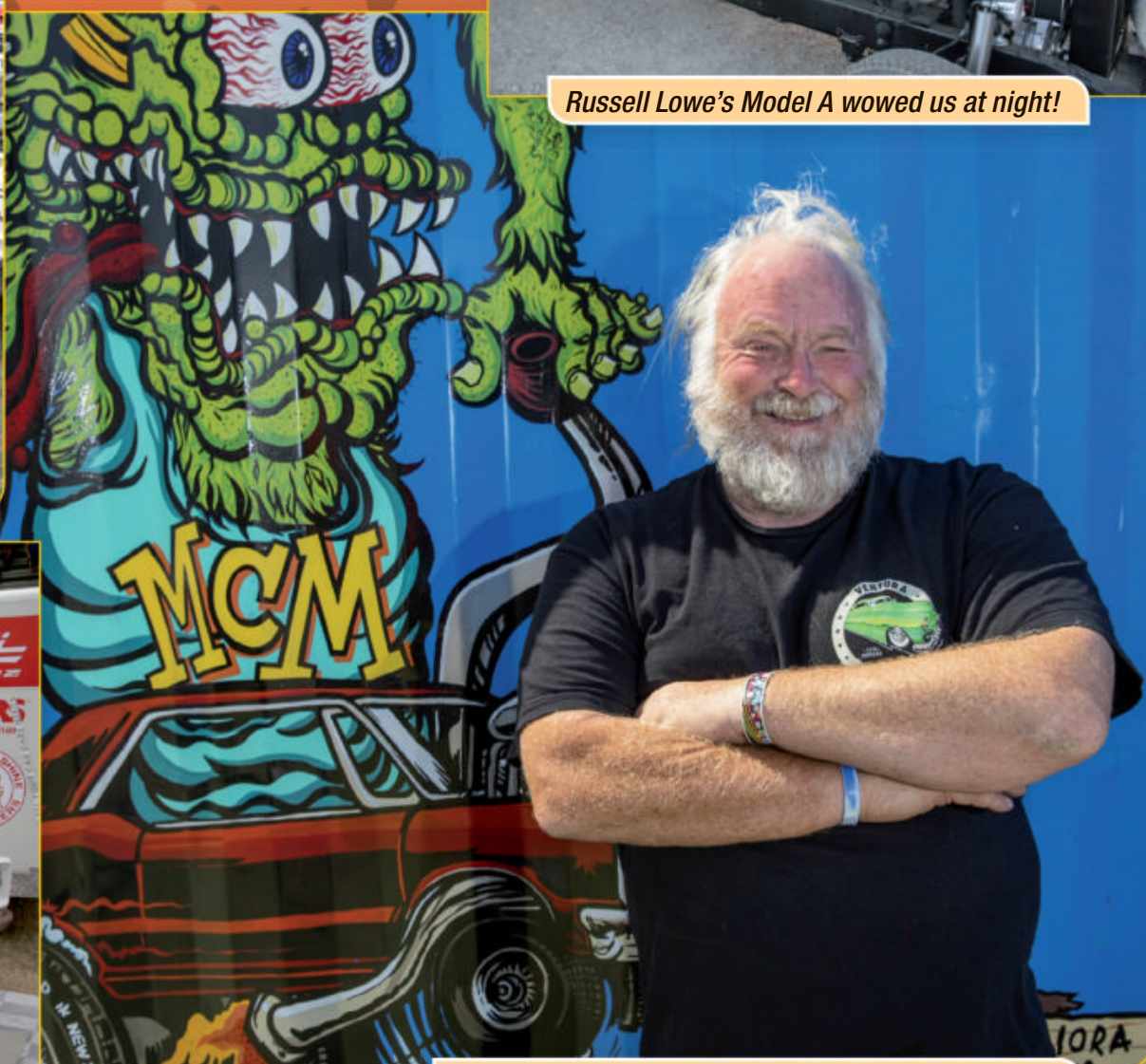
Entirely homebuilt 1934 Plymouth sedan with Hemi power by Ben Garden. PG



Russell Lowe's Model A wowed us at night!



Ian Neary's perfect V10 Viper powered GTX won Top Mopar and a Top Ten prize. CS



The problem child - the instigator. Guilty your honour.

STADIUM FINANCE BURNOUT



Just watching the burnouts. Photo by Bailey



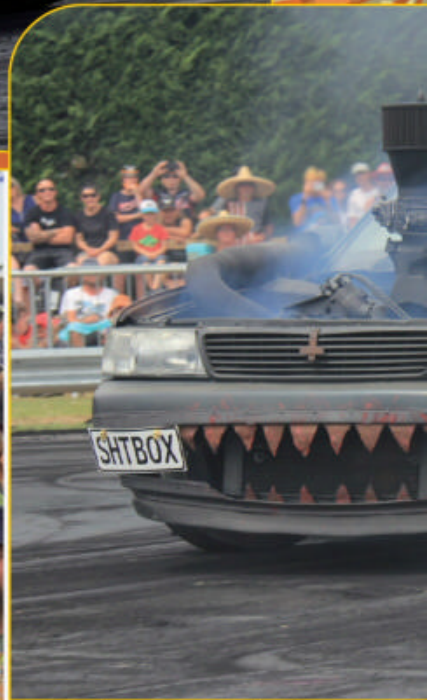
'Burnout Bogans' scored a well deserved 3rd equal in Stadium Finance sponsored burnout comp in their Harry Potter car AR



High school student Reuben Phillips took this cool shot.



They just love burnouts, a very small section of crowd of watchers. This picture makes it all worthwhile BT



CONGRATULATIONS CRAIG

MUSCLE Car Madness was the brainchild of one man who for whatever reason, decided to put together that first event with the hope that it might grow the following year. By the time it reached year eight Craig probably quietly thought he might have the 10th Anniversary on his hands in two years. By the time the event reached its 20th Anniversary he was probably trying to “hang on to a Tiger by its tale”. And the rest, as they say, is history. But you would be kidding yourself if you thought it wasn’t all plain sailing. These type of events have growing pains and no doubt there were years when the event chewed up way more money than anticipated as well as reducing one’s life expectancy due to participants’ stupidity.

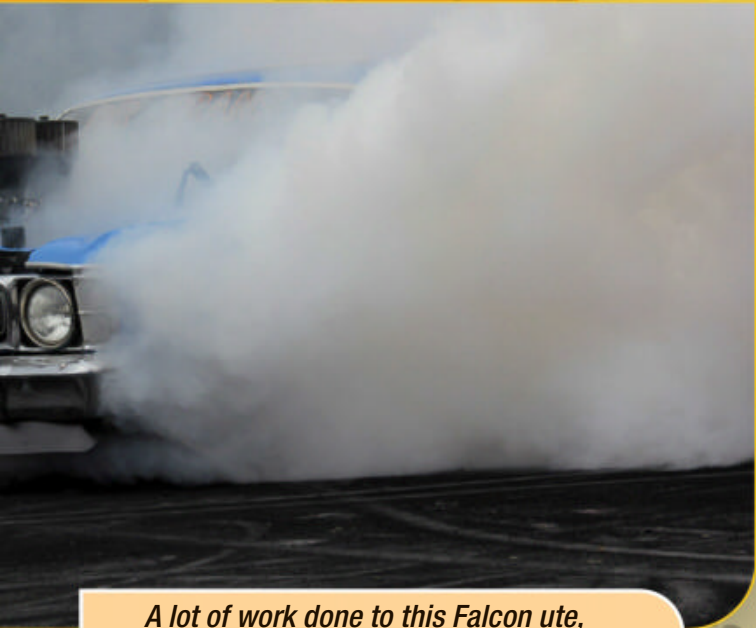
From an outsiders perspective, I don’t think Craig does it for the financial reward. Here is a good example of the point I am making. Forking out a whole lot of money to bring the Purple People

Eater to NZ probably didn’t generate that many more people through the gates. He did it because it wowed him when he first saw it and he thought it would do the same for a whole lot of people who would never get to the US to see it in the flesh. Same goes for the overseas bands. But at the same time, Craig is to be commended for giving a large number of high school bands the publicity or chance to perform in front of a larger audience than they would possibly ever have anywhere else. It would be interesting to know what their debut appearance at MCM lead to. Not sure if the beauty pageant opened the doors for some people to a modelling career, but it is hugely popular, and the standard is right up there. The burnout competition has probably kept many “idle hands” busy over the years. While some of us shake our heads thinking why it has a huge following, but if you were to win this event, you are definitely the “main man”. Bragging rights for a lifetime but do you think that winner even considered that

it was one person who put this event together and created the skidpad with the help of friends and kind sponsors? There will be a handful of people who have attended all thirty events but a hell of a lot more who would be totally lost at the end of every January if there wasn’t this iconic event. You often read in local newspapers every January when there is nothing much to report how someone has returned to the same camping spot in the same campground beside the same people for the last 40 years. Those setting up camp at Muscle Car Madness actually fall into this same category, but they have a good reason to do just that. They are either being entertained; they are the entertainers or both. And they have one person to thank. Craig, on behalf of all these people and those who may have only been once and left with a smile on their face we salute you. Your passion for putting on a great “hot rod” event for 30 straight years puts you in a very elite group of people worldwide responsible for our sports iconic events.



Hamish and Shitbox are popular regulars.BT



A lot of work done to this Falcon ute, emerging from the smoke, done by Dr Trans. BT

AWARDS
TOP TEN

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1/ Lyall Stewart 1932 Ford coupe | 6/ Graham Coates 1948 Chev pickup |
| 2/ Ian Neary 1970 Plymouth GTX | 7/ Deane Crocker 1948 Chev pickup |
| 3/ Sean Williams 1933 Ford roadster | 8/ Ben Lucas 1952 Chev pickup |
| 4/ Clinton Wheeler EK Holden Panel | 9/ Grant Findlay 1951 Buick custom |
| 5/ Tasha Collins 1955 Chev Nomad | 10/ Ian Paki 1963 Pontiac Catalina |

- BEST HOLDEN
BEST FORD
BEST MOPAR
BEST CHEV
BEST MUSCLE CAR
BEST CREATION
BEST POTENTIAL
WAY KOOL
BEST CHOPPER
BEST RETRO CAR
HAPPY CAMPER
BEST STUNTMAN
LONG DISTANCE

- Clinton Wheeler EK Holden panel
Lyall Stewart 1932 Ford coupe
Ian Neary Plymouth GTX
Tasha Collins 1955 Chev Nomad
Terry Martin Shelby Mustang
Russell Lowe A coupe
Louie O'Donnell 1949 Merc
Tony House 1932 Ford coupe
Matt Jukic Radical custom bike
Harry Orpwood 1932 Ford roadster
Vanz Unlimited
Matt Lott Double backflip
N.Z Brodie Smith Northland '58 Chev Brookwood
Overseas: Elaine Benefield, Arkansas.

- BEST DAY AWARDS
1/ Terry Walsh 1946 Ford coupe
2/ Mark Stead 1940 Ford-style Cabover
3/ Tony Cook 1932 Ford

- Stadium Finance BURNOUTS
1/ Liz Gracie 1969 Camaro
2/ Hayden Wilby Holden
3rd equal Mike Ledgerwood Corolla and Burnout Bogans Anglia

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| RODDER'S CHOICE | Josh Trybula 1941 Buick coupe |
| PEOPLE'S CHOICE | Russell Lowe A coupe |

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BLUE BAYON

DAVID HORTON'S 1940 FORD PICKUP



U





Photos by Alastair Ritchie

DAVID Horton's 1940 Ford pickup was most likely one of the many right-hand drive versions which were ordered by Ford NZ from Ford Canada to assist with business and the war effort materially. It was just as production of passenger vehicles came to a halt and noticeably, there were no 1940 Ford passenger cars ordered by Ford NZ or imported into NZ at that time.

We know little of the pickup's history, but we do know it's much loved because David has owned this pert pickup twice. He first purchased it way back in August 1983, and it's known history shows Bob Jarvis had built it in the late '70s, Bob owned Green Island Auto Wreckers in Dunedin, and the business logo was sign written on both doors. Under the hood was a fully worked 351 Ford Windsor V8 backed by a 3-speed manual and a trusty Ford 9-inch diff. The pickup was painted light blue, and after a couple of years fun, David sold it in August 1985.





THE INTERIOR





Davis recalls. "After many years of wondering what happened to it, I went looking for it and found it resting in Pleasant Point, just out of Timaru and under the ownership and care of Wayne Flockton. At first I didn't recognise it because it was in pieces, but then I saw the gold crushed velvet on the inside of the cab and made a positive ID. Wayne wasn't sure if he wanted to sell it, but after I told him the history I had with the truck, he said where is your cheque book." Very soon after, it was loaded onto the trailer and brought back to Cromwell where I live.



There it was panelbeated, painted, then reupholstered and finished. Often people have asked me how much did it all cost? And I have replied it doesn't matter because I will never sell it."

Not everyone understands the delicate balance between "too much" and "just right," as it takes a good eye, and we think David Horton has got it nailed.



After many years of wondering what happened to it, I went looking for it and found it resting in Pleasant Point...





FEATURES AND SPECIFICATIONS

YEAR: 1940

MAKE: Ford

MODEL: 1/2 ton Pickup.

BODY: Stock, all original just as it came from the factory.

ENGINE: 351 Windsor mild cam Edelbrock Victor Jnr intake manifold and a few shiny bits.

EXHAUST: 2-1/2 inch Stainless steel duals.

TRANSMISSION: C4.

REAR END: Ford 9 inch with discs.

CHASSIS: Factory stock chassis.

STEERING: Holden Torana rack and pinion steering, Ididit tilt steering column, Grant wooden steering wheel.

FRONT: Holden Torana front suspension P76 discs.

REAR: 4-link with Koni adjustable shocks.

WHEELS/TYRES Truespoke wires.

17 x 8 back and 15 x 5 front.

INTERIOR: White leather. Electric windows.

INSTRUMENTS: Dolphin fuel, oil, water, amp, speedo and rev counter.

DECKING: American Oak with Stainless Steel inserts.

THANKS: Many thanks to Michael Stewart of Cromwell and Lionel Day of Clyde



Jr Dragster Champs

Meremere, 8th Feb 2020



From Mike Ashton

HEADS UP RACING RESULTS

Class	Driver	R.T	D.I	E.T	MPH
TOP COMP					
MASTER	Brooklyn Hedley	0.086	7.9	7.981	81.29
MASTER	Hamish Chauval	0.250	7.9	7.933	82.26
PRO COMP					
ADV	Amy Davies	0.24	8.9	11.223	61.39
ADV	Victoria Steiner	-0.006	8.9	11.376	54.87
SUPER COMP					
BEGIN	Carlos Harvey	0.265	11.9	12.176	52.63
BEGIN	Holley Davison	0.196	11.9	12.671	48.19

DYO RACING RESULTS

Class	Driver	R.T	D.I	E.T	MPH
TOP COMP					
MASTER	Sasha Davison	0.099	10.10	10.254	64.59
MASTER	Sophie Bingley	0.074	7.97	8.214	79.35
PRO COMP					
ADV	Amy Davies	0.073	11.05	11.078	61.43
ADV	Victoria Steiner	0.149	11.40	11.39	54.63
SUPER COMP					
BEGIN	Carlos Harvey	0.125	12.08	12.204	52.68
BEGIN	Holley Davison	0.059	12.45	12.937	45.72



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The Ross family from Whangarei put on a stunning display and took home a couple of Top Five awards too.



The Great Waipu Car & Bike Show

From Paul Grace

610 cars plus 150 bikes rolled through the gates at this year's Waipu Car & Bike Show which made for another fantastic occasion under blazing blue summer skies. Crowds from local as well as far and wide came to enjoy a feast of motoring memorabilia and creations. The Northland car scene is growing exponentially, ensuring the ongoing success of one-day shows in boutique locations like Waipu. A wide variety of trade stands provided food and souvenirs for those interested. Overall around \$24 K was raised for local charity and community support groups which is a fantastic result so thanks go to Karen & Ron Cave and their team of hard-working volunteers, Waipu Lions, Craigs Investment partners and all sponsors who lent their support.



We were pleasantly surprised when one of NZHRM's original founders Harvey Ferguson dropped by to say hi. Harvey is now a resident of Waipu and has a few cars in his collection.



NZHRM's Project Grasstrack was on display for the first time at Waipu.



'58 Impalas were a semi-custom right off the showroom floor, and this one takes one step further with tube grille, paint accents and custom wheels.



Polished mags, whitewall tyres accentuate the bodacious look of this '59 Cadillac 4-door hardtop.



This swish looking '67 AMC Marlin had many scratching their heads.



We were intrigued by the stealthmint look of this '65 XP Falcon convertible.



This nicely restored '26 Chrysler roadster added to the vintage ranks.



Finesse Kairau took home People's Choice award for her amazing Harley trike and Hearse trailer combo.



The ex-Jim Crain, Dave Loose '63 Corvette roadster made an appearance.



That's an external ice-cooler to keep the inside temps down on scorching hot summer days cruising in your '51 Caddy Coupe De Ville.



Cute proportions and polished blown smallblock feature on this '23 T-bucket.



Cool 101 would be a great way to describe this '58 Ford Custom 300 two-door sedan.



Another in the vintage line-up was this '29 Studebaker Dictator sedan. Under the hood rests a 221ci straight 8 donk.



We love the style lines on this 1960 Pontiac Bonneville.



The owner of this rare (1 of 3) '38 Studebaker coupe did 99% of the work himself. It's powered by a 468ci big block Chevrolet fed on a diet of LPG.



These '48 Chevrolet Fleetline sedans are catching on, and we can see why.



This slick black '57 Bel Air 2-door hardtop featured the factory red/black interior combo. For sale too!



Mile-deep Tuxedo black paint and polished Weld wheels combo make for a striking pose on this cool '28 sedan delivery.



Neat as a pin '64 Impala was a new project just completed by Real Rides.



Looks like a fresh resto on this '68 Mustang convertible.



Best Original award went to this '57 Chevrolet Bel Air convertible owned by Peter Torrice.



Impressive '62 Impala runs a trusty and reliable 350ci engine.



This '37 Ford flatback tudor from Whangarei R&CC is one of our favourites in Ford's line-up for that year.



This F100 sits just right. Under the hood is a diesel.



Pro Street style was chosen for this '41 Willys replica.



Both traditional and resto-rod styles are expertly merged on this '40 standard tudor.



Steve Kelly's '47 pickup in bright Kodak yellow is always an eye-catcher.



The best of the tri-fives can always be found on display at Waipu.



This way cool '63-1/2 Q code Galaxie will get you there fast and in fine style.



Dave Oliver and Alana Goold are the proud caretakers of this dead-original and unrestored '57 Ford mainline ute. Note the cool original front plate!



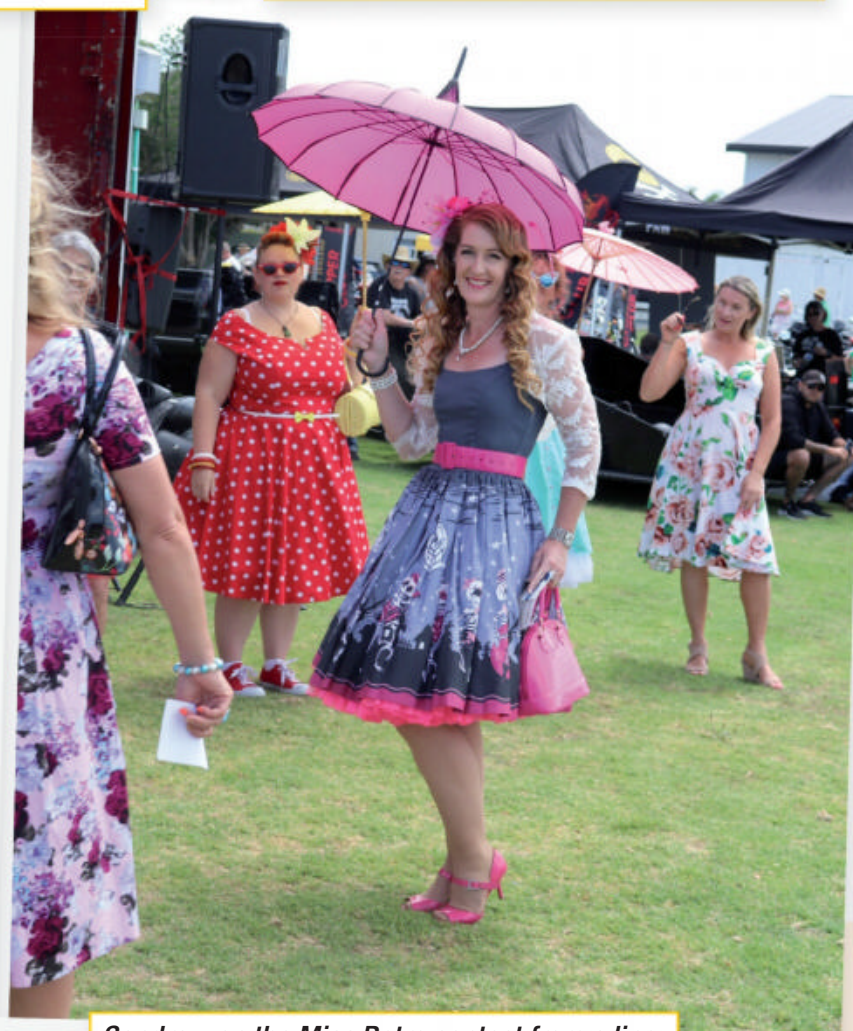
Mainstream's School Bus is always a curiosity and crowd-puller.



This '69 Shelby GT350 is a genuine matching numbers car and for sale too. Asking \$120K.



No Mustang could look much cleaner and cooler than this gold '65 fastback.



Sandra won the Miss Retro contest from a line-up of nine stunningly gorgeous contestants.

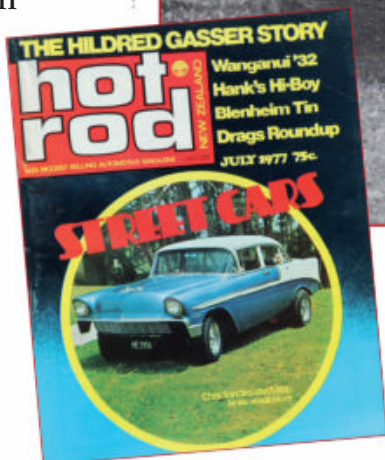
Flying FAREWELL

Chris Sanders

1955 - 2020

Photos by Allan Porter and NZHRM Archives

IN early February several former Tamaki Rod and Custom Club members attended the funeral of Chris Sanders. A number of the funeral attendees travelled with Chris in convoy to the Street Rod Nats in Christchurch in 1976. Chris served as Club President for a period; he had a '56 Chevy 4-door sedan which featured on the cover of NZHRM's July '77 issue. He also owned the ex Dore '32 and a 38 Chevy coupe. He was much respected, a gifted signwriter/artist and he was the go-to person in the club for your cars show signboard. Chris worked tirelessly on club activities



including displays at shows and even did many murals on the walls of the club's first clubrooms which was above Nick Leifting's workshop

in Onehunga. Chris moved with his family to Perth late eighties, where he established a very successful seafood importing business. Chris passed away after a lengthy illness at just 64. From His Tamaki club mates.



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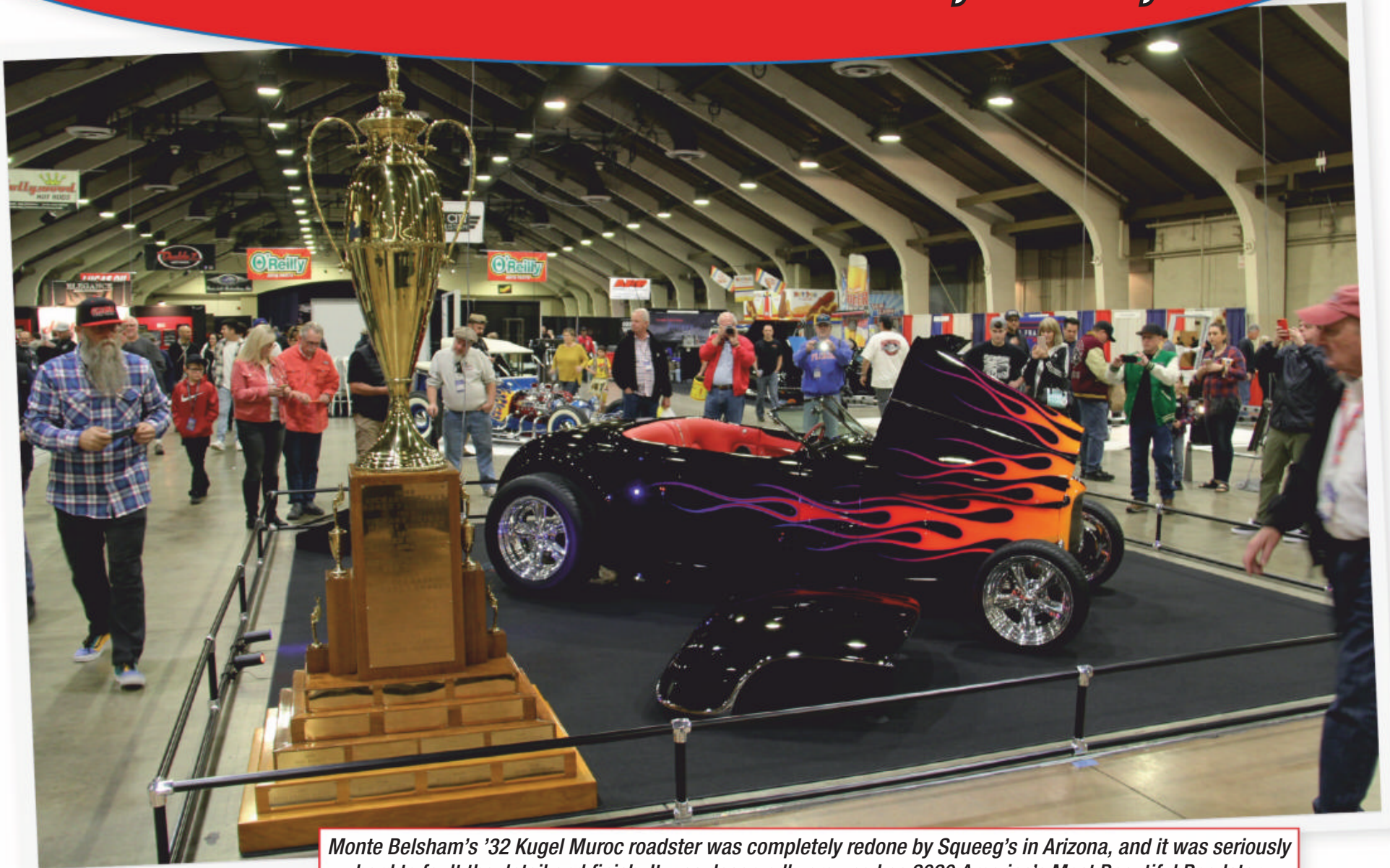
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The Grand Daddy Rod Show

The 71st Grand National Roadster Show at Pomona, California, USA



Monte Belsham's '32 Kugel Muroc roadster was completely redone by Squeeg's in Arizona, and it was seriously hard to fault the detail and finish. It was deservedly crowned as 2020 America's Most Beautiful Roadster.

By Greg Stokes

HAVING enjoyed last year's Grand National Roadster Show immensely and to be invited back to join the judging team for America's Most Beautiful Roadster (AMBR) made it a no-brainer to attend again this year. Always held at the end of January, in California's winter, the climate is refreshing with us coming from the peak of a New Zealand summer. This is a show which we urge you all to visit at least once in your lifetime. In addition to the America's Most Beautiful Roadster (AMBR) Award being the USA's longest running award, this year they revived the equally prestigious Al Slonaker Memorial Award. ARP Fasteners support both the AMBR and the Slonaker.

Display vehicles travel from all over the country as well as some international visitors. In fact, there was one AMBR contender from Japan and representing New Zealand was Martin & Marion Bennett from Stragglers club in Cambridge with their Uncertain-T tribute.



The For Ever Four club were displayed outside and promoting their upcoming Antique Nationals nostalgia drag racing meet.



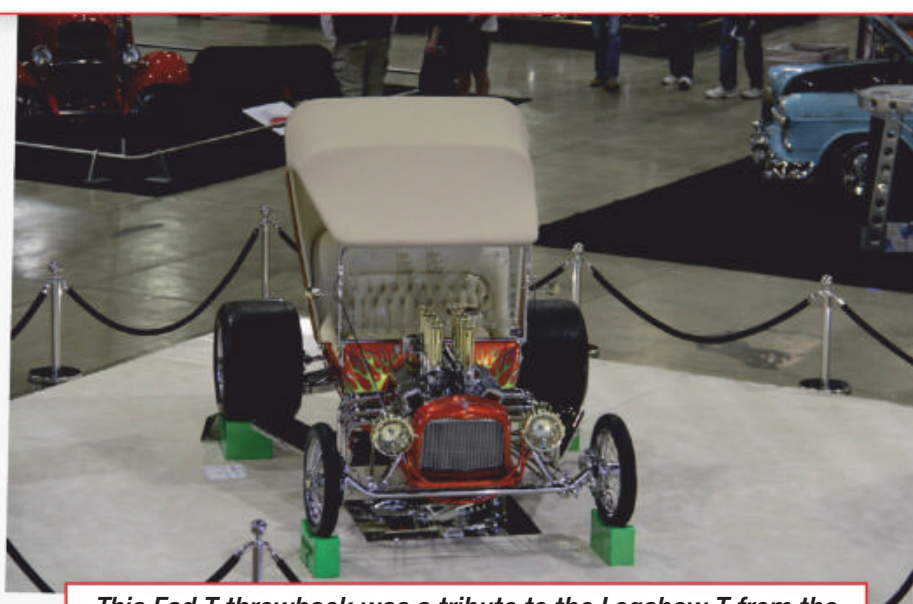
Restored by Roy Brizio Street Rods for Ross Myers, the late Norm Grabowski Kookie T deservedly won the Bruce Meyer Hot Rod Preservation award.



Tom Firth had Stoker's Rod Shop put together this tasteful full fendered roadster with flathead power and '34 Ford screen posts. Behind that is the visiting car from Japan of the late Ken Katashio – those guys had an incredible time. Ken's friends finished the car in his memory. Both vehicles were AMBR contenders.



Started by Ionia Speed Shop and finished by Dave Shuten at Galpin's for AMBR was Gary DeVine's funky '32 Ford roadster pickup with a Buick Nailhead engine.



This Fad T throwback was a tribute to the Legshow T from the '70s to which the owner, Walter Sigsbey claimed that a lot of the car was the original which he had rebuilt as an AMBR contender.



Mostly built at home around a Brizio's chassis, Mike Dwight entered his car into AMBR. The wedge-like proportions come from channelling the car more at the front.



Last year's AMBR winner still attracted a crowd as it was displayed by the big trophy. Built by Pinkee's for George Poteet, it's an outstanding example of a '36 Ford.



Bill Ganahl's South City Rod & Custom Shop recently finished the beautiful restoration on the Panella Brothers' Willys pickup.

It was great to see it in the flesh at GNRS and to say it was appreciated would be a huge understatement, the American show-goers LOVE IT! Another Kiwi built car on display was the Daimler C-Cab of Phil Marks too – remember that car? It was featured in NZHRM's Nov '73 and Apr '78 issues.

With around 1000 vehicles spanning six buildings of the Pomona Fairplex (yes the same location of the L.A. Roadster Show and also the Pomona Swap Meet) with another 1000 vehicles displayed outside, along with indoor and outdoor vendors, there's truly something for everyone including the Suede Palace. The unique display in Building 9 this year celebrated Drag Racing vehicles past and present. Building 4 is where the main action usually happens with 14 contenders for America's Most Beautiful Roadster. This is the busy hall as everyone wants to check out the latest from vendors like Roy Brizio Street Rods who had seven of their newest cars on display including the recently restored Norm Grabowski "Kookie T" for Ross Myers. There was also a pinstripers auction and then outside there were also live bands and the usual refreshment and food vendors. Despite this show being in the peak of our summer here in New Zealand, the GNRS is a must-do bucket list type of event, and there are usually a few open houses from rod shops which are always worth a visit too.

Check out www.rodshows.com for further information on the show.



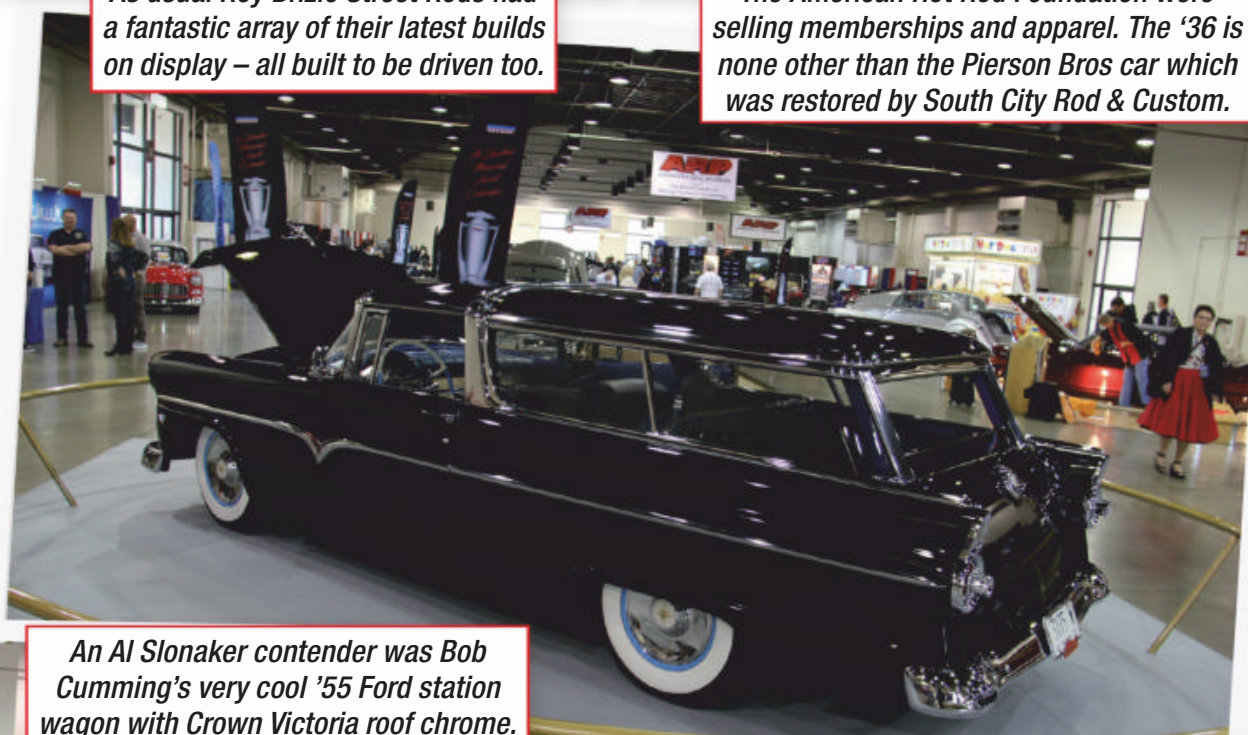
Dave Kipp had Squeak White build this Thunderbird with all modern undercarriage, but it was the Shotgun Ford engine stuffed in the engine bay which was too awesome.



As usual Roy Brizio Street Rods had a fantastic array of their latest builds on display – all built to be driven too.



The American Hot Rod Foundation were selling memberships and apparel. The '36 is none other than the Pierson Bros car which was restored by South City Rod & Custom.



An Al Slonaker contender was Bob Cumming's very cool '55 Ford station wagon with Crown Victoria roof chrome.



The 2020 Al Slonaker award winner was this '36 Willys pickup of Ron Emsberger running an Arias Hemi V6 engine.



Martin & Marion Bennett from Stragglers in Cambridge kicked off the show season for Uncertain-T at GNRS and as this is written have a full show schedule ahead of them. Three awards were deservedly won – 1st in Class, Outstanding Detail and Outstanding Individual Display.

Judging America's Most Beautiful Roadster

By Greg Stokes – 2020 AMBR Judge

FOLLOWING on from judging the AMBR last year, for this year's show I was asked once again, and I was both honoured and humbled. The judging team is made up of individuals in the industry be it from media, fabrication or building backgrounds. This year there were guys like Bobby Alloway, Pete Eastwood, Brian Brennan and Tom Vogle. Seven of us in total all working from the same judging sheet. The calibre of judges brings a balance of neutral and non-emotional judging and trust me it's as brutal, unforgiving and as passionate as you may think, but it is a fair process and keep in mind we are judging America's Most Beautiful Roadster, not the most traditional or the most driven.

If you want to be a part of the AMBR you must enter months ahead, pay an entry fee and then be selected to contend – there are 12 spots to fill. If you are accepted, you then MUST have the car at the show on Wednesday for stage one of the judging. The vehicles are called one by one to be DRIVEN into the hall and up to the judges' table. This is an incredibly important aspect to the judging process as we can admire (or not) the car as it comes towards us and see how it looks and sounds from all angles. Another dimension to this is we can see how comfortable (or not) the driver is in the car and how they control it. Once parked by the curtain backdrop the owner and/or builder are given a 10-15-minute window to talk with the judges, describe the theme and build process of the car and highlight any features we may miss. This is another interesting aspect to the judging process which showcases how well (or not) the owner and/or builder understood

the end result of what they were building with design and fabrication execution. What is interesting here is what appears a favourite to many watching the show online via photos on social media, is usually A LOT different to what the judges see in the flesh.

From the Wednesday judging, each car is then sent to its allocated display area and display set up begins in time for the Friday noon show opening. The judges then have up until Saturday night to further inspect the 14 cars in their displayed format before meeting and going around the table to select the 2020 America's Most Beautiful Roadster. The award isn't about the with the biggest bucks wins at all. The award is about the styling, the theme, the fit and finish, the design and fabrication and the way the whole package is wrapped up as one. This year's contenders were very diverse from traditional styled, hi-tech, shop-built, and home-built.



John Foxley came down from Canada with this really tastefully chopped and finished early Merc coupe.



East Bay Rod & Custom just finished up this super clean and too cool '33 Ford roadster for Scott Gillen.



We sure loved the track roadster theme running through the Dick Russell all-steel '25 T roadster owned by Tom Malloy and powered by a 252 cube Drake/Offy.



Lee Pratt never disappoints, his latest is this period-perfect chopped and channelled '32 5w coupe with an Olds engine.



Rich & Bev Stapf's champagne gold '32 coupe is an excellent example of what a chopped hot rod coupe should look like with fabulous proportions and details.



The late Bernie Couch roadster was recently restored by Dave Simard and was recognised at the show by the L.A. Roadsters.



The late Bob Bauder pickup is an excellent example of how they should look.



John Ivy's track T roadster in AMBR was a favourite for many due to its detailed flathead and neat colours.



Dave Shuten at Galpins recently restored the Twin Bathtub show rod and displayed it amongst other Galpin restored show rods.



A timeless pair – Brian Williams' '32 3w and Ryan Reed's '37 coupe.



Mark Westrick recently finished this outstanding example of a sixties-style '32 roadster which many felt should have been inside and in contention for AMBR.



Dale Seaholm recently visited NZ to attend Whakatane's 50th and was at GNRS promoting the Hot Rod A Rama show he is organising. His '34 coupe is as wild as they come with devil-like fifties flames and a staunch Olds engine.



The Rolling Rice Bowl was a tribute car recreated by many in the industry and given to the late Gray Baskerville years ago as a way of saying thanks for all he did for hot rodding.



Jerry Moreland's "Project 40" was built by Tom Vogeles and was part of the street rod drag race wars of the eighties. It's now owned by Scott Lorinzini who runs it on the street!



TV Tommy Ivo was there with his burnout exhibition dragster powered by four Buick Nailhead engines.



From Texas, Brian Auderer drove this perfect Model A tudor to GNRS, displayed it in the Suede Palace, won the Brizio Family Award and then drove home.



Karpo Murjikian now owns the white Lil John Buttera roadster which is as timeless now as it was cutting edge in its day.



Ron Keilwitz' loves Deuce roadsters and SCOT blown Ardun engines, his roadster is the real deal.



An early Boyd car with plenty of miles on it is the Thom Taylor designed '32 two-door tub of the late Bob Kolmos.

Comp 3

Meremere Dragway Sunday 9th February

Photos by Spook, Results by Mike Ashton



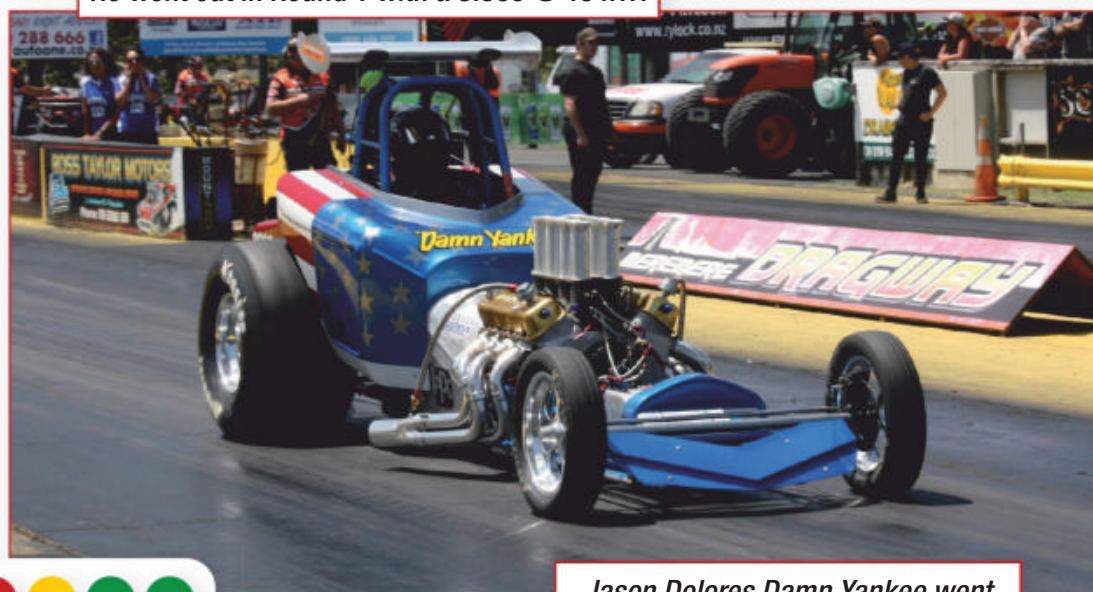
Paul Hammond letting it rip!



Denis Beaver's '65 Falcon runs a 428ci Ford.
He went out in Round 1 with a 8.369 @ 164.17.



Stephen McKay getting air
under his '36 Dodge coupe.



Jason Dolores Damn Yankee went
out in Round 1 with a 8.648@150.01.



Neville Smith's T Altered advised out in
the final, handing the win to Gary Bogaart.



Stephen Miliken's '36 Chev ran in C3 Super Comp and went out in Round 1 with a 7.418@184.15 on a red light.



Michael Coward's '48 Pop took home the trophy for C2 Pro Comp.

Results

C1 - Top Comp

Gary Bogaart	9.243	98.96
Neville Smith	Advised Out	

C2 - PRO COMP

Michael Coward	9.275	146.26
"Dutchie" Wijdeven	8.576	158.99

C3 - SUPER COMP

Nic Bogaart	10.428	120.95
Sam Khamis	9.761	89.03

C8 - SUPER STREET

Jason Davies	11.578	112.81
Leighan Cairns	12.649	108.64

C9 - COMP BIKE

Gregory Pratt	9.422	138.88
Karl Fyn	9.541	135.22

C10 - SUPER SEDAN

Jeremy Hewson	8.633	156.05
Justin Weir	10.853	123.27

C11 - SCREAMIN EAGLES

Geoff Bond	12.222	105.01
Gregory Pratt	11.21	123.55

C12 - JUNIOR DRAGSTER

Sophie Bingley	7.973	79.85
Hamish Chauval	7.925	81.66

C13 - MODIFIED BIKE

Ross Donaldson	10.766	112.75
Mal Bain	12.15	122.18

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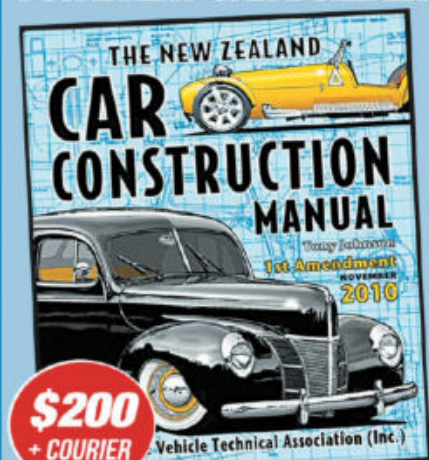
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Nitro Funny Cars

Brought to you by Aeroflow Meremere Dragway, 23rd February



Our cameraman Spook Howard snapped the spectacular wheelstanding Nitro Sheriff with all four wheels off the ground, just running on the wheelie bars.

*Report from Morice Mcmillin
Pics by Spook, Results by Mike Ashton*

IT had taken three rainouts over two years to get the Aeroflow Outlaw Nitro Funny Cars event to happen at Meremere Dragway. And for the massive crowd who turned up, nobody went home disappointed. Initially scheduled for Saturday the 21st of February but with scheduled rain, the event team decided to postpone until Sunday to give fans time to amend travel arrangements to attend.

The crowd responded with a massive turnout coming through the gate to witness the nine Nitro Funny Cars and the Wheelstander finally put on a show on New Zealand soil. The event kicked off with the Aeroflow Pit party which was a massive hit with the New Zealand crowd. Many fans were getting their first chance to see one of the cars up close.

The on-track action started with a massive bang with side-by-side 5.72s between the LA hooker and the Bandit setting the scene for a fantastic event; a tiny hole shot to Josh Leahy in the Bandit being the only difference between the pair. The Nitro Express came



A 5.66 at a whopping 419km/h for One Bad Kiwi driven by Kiwi Morice Mcmillin take the overall win.



Anthony Begley's LA Hooker (Plymouth Arrow) had one of the best race cars on the day.



Greg Leahy's Terminator (Chevrolet Camaro) lost in Round 1 and did not race again.



Rick Gauci's Nitro Express ('57 Chev) was the winningest car in the series went all the way to the final, losing to Morice Mcmillin's One Bad Kiwi.



Morice Mcmillin in One Bad Kiwi set the low ET of the meeting with 5.61 seconds.

out and laid down a 5.68 to set low ET of the round, while Nitro Flashback and One Bad Kiwi both took wins and King Kong took the bye on a peddling pass. Chelsea Leahy then wowed the crowd with an impressive full-track wheelstand in the Nitro Sheriff finishing off a super entertaining round.

Round two action started with a wild peddle-fest between Nitro Express and King Kong. While not fast, the side-by-side peddling 8-second pass had the crowd on their feet. The experience of Rick taking the win in Nitro Express. Dark Horse then ended the Bandits chance at the final with another great side-by-side 5-second race decided by less than 0.05 of a second. Morice Mcmillin in One Bad Kiwi now had an opportunity to secure his spot in the final round, and he did, setting low ET of the meeting with a 5.61 seconds beating fellow Kiwi Karl Boniface in Nitro Flashback. To finish off the Round, it was the father/daughter match up of Anthony and Emma Begley. Emma staging early to put here dad off her and it worked with a start line advantage meaning Emma's 5.84 was enough to beat dad Anthony's 5.7 both at over 400km/h. With the points totalled up the final round would be One Bad Kiwi verse Nitro Express for the gold #1 trophy while The two Ford Mustangs, Lets Boogie and Dark Horse would runoff for the 3rd place trophy.

Round 3 kicked off with the LA Hooker showing he had one of the best race cars on the day with another 5.7 to beat local car Nitro Flashback who was just happy to be part of the day's action. Josh Leahy in the Bandit then dropped a 5.64 to beat King Kong. In the first of the trophy match ups, side-by-side 5.79s again had the crowd on their feet with the Dark Horse just denying Emma Begley her first podium by the smallest of margins. It was then time for the big one, Could Kiwi Morice Mcmillin take his first series win on home soil, to do it he had to beat the winningest car in the series Nitro Express driven by Rick Gauci and tuned by Graeme Cowin. A 5.66 at a whopping 419km/h -or One Bad Kiwi was more than enough for a tyre-smoking Nitro Express. It was a fitting end to an entertaining event where every fan went home with a smile on their face and some nitro in their eyes.

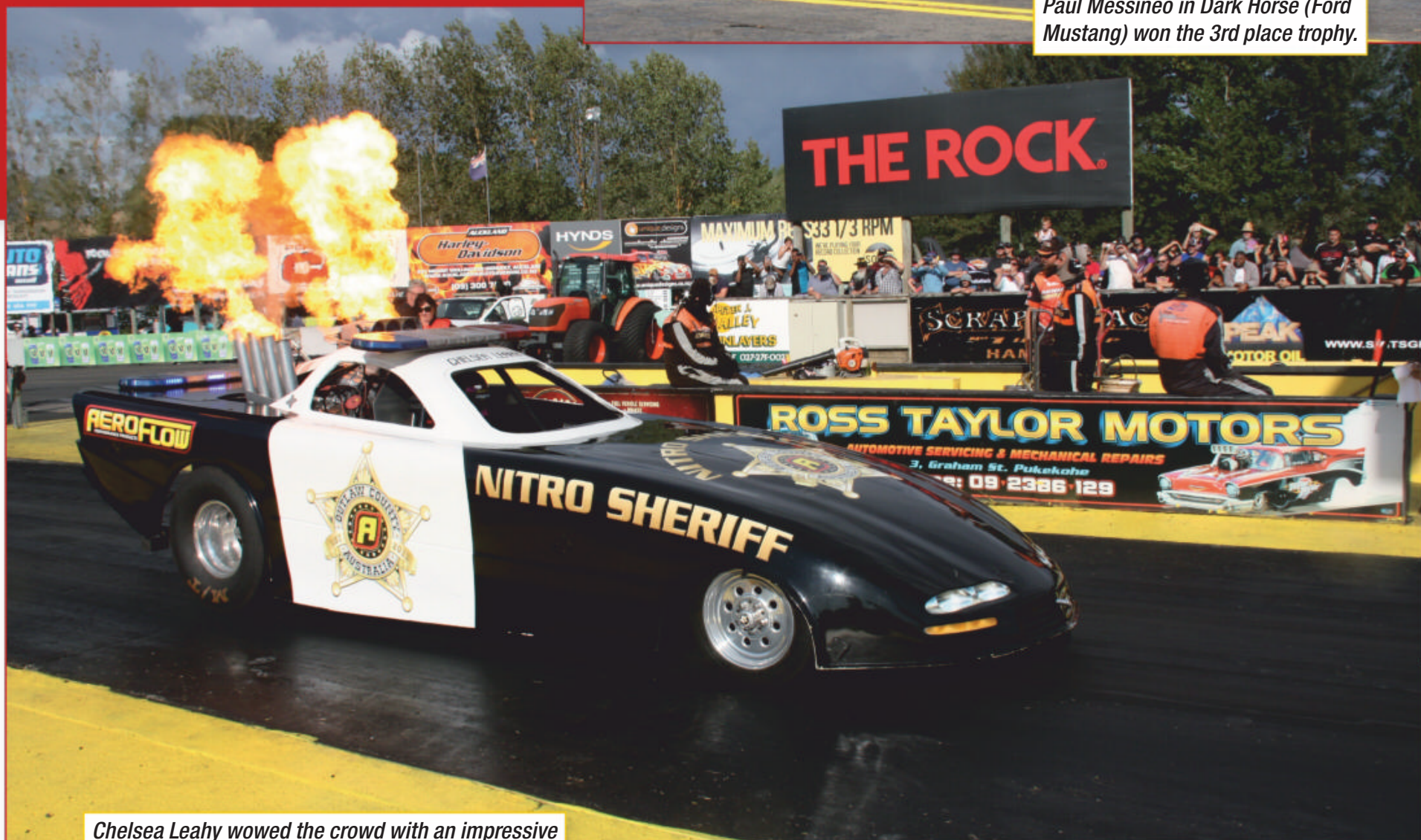


THE DRIVERS AND THEIR CARS:

Rick Gauci	Nitro Express ('57 Chev Coupe)
Emma Begley	Lets Boogie (Ford Mustang)
Josh Leahy	Bandit (Pontiac Transam)
Morice McMillin	One Bad Kiwi (Pontiac Transam)
Brandon Gosbell	King Kong (Pontiac Transam)
Anthony Begley	LA Hooker (Plymouth Arrow)
Paul Messineo	Dark Horse (Ford Mustang)
Justin Walshe	Terminator (Chevrolet Camaro)



Paul Messineo in Dark Horse (Ford Mustang) won the 3rd place trophy.



Chelsea Leahy wowed the crowd with an impressive full-track wheelstand in the Nitro Sheriff.



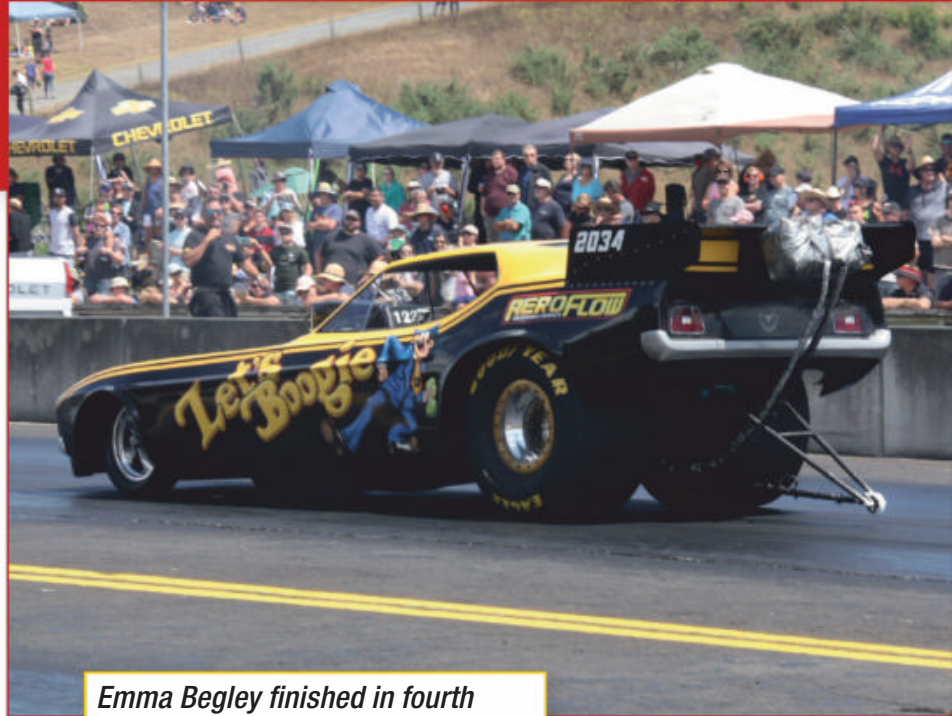
Local hero Karl Boniface in Nitro Flashback was happy to participate on the day.



One of the largest crowds seen at Meremere in a long time came to see, smell and hear the thunderous roar and spectacular entertainment of the Nitro Funny Cars.



Brandon Gosbell in King Kong (Pontiac Transam) ran a best of 8.376 at 107.32mph.



Emma Begley finished in fourth place in Lets Boogie. (Ford Mustang)



RESULTS

Round 1	Car	R/T	ET	MPH
Joshua Leahy	Bandit	0.084	5.726	252.37
Anthony Begley	LA Hooker	0.140	5.724	248.70
Rickie Gauci	Nitro Express	0.106	5.674	254.95
Morice Mcmillin	One Bad Kiwi	0.100	5.755	251.02
Paul Messimo	Dark Horse	0.098	8.782	125.01
Karl Boniface	Nitro Flashback	0.099	7.065	193.57
Emma Jayne Begley	Let's Boogie	0.282	6.939	119.14
Brandon Gosbell	King Kong	0.169	8.376	107.32
Greg Leahy	Terminator	Did not stage		
Chelsea Leahy	Nitro Sheriff	0.622	15.924	61.06

Round 2				
Rickie Gauci	Nitro Express	0.107	8.068	182.27
Brandon Gosbell	King Kong	0.128	8.644	138.94
Paul Messimo	Dark Horse	0.141	5.851	244.39
Joshua Leahy	Bandit	0.128	5.931	254.47
Morice Mcmillin	One Bad Kiwi	0.097	5.619	250.22
Karl Boniface	Nitro Flashback	No data		
Emma Jayne Begley	Let's Boogie	0.130	5.846	229.86
Anthony Begley	LA Hooker	0.412	5.772	250.78
Chelsea Leahy	Nitro Sheriff	0.582	16.572	63.27

Round 3				
Anthony Begley	LA Hooker	0.118	5.743	254.14
Karl Boniface	Nitro Flashback	0.111	6.873	200.85
Joshua Leahy	Bandit	0.118	5.645	248.71
Brandon Gosbell	King Kong	0.180	11.615	80.74
Paul Messimo	Dark Horse	0.122	5.792	243.19
Emma Jayne Begley	Let's Boogie	0.166	5.795	229.50
Morice Mcmillin	One Bad Kiwi	0.087	5.661	259.84
Rickie Gauci	Nitro Express	0.115	10.438	112.56
Chelsea Leahy	Nitro Sheriff	0.530	15.141	68.64

Winner	
Morice Mcmillin	One Bad Kiwi
Rickie Gauci	Nitro Express



The clear-sky day tempted Drew Galog and son to venture north from Balclutha, for a cruise in their 1927 Ford Roadster.



Stateside Streeter's Great USA Day

Saturday 7th March

Report by Jenny Bickley

STATESIDE Streeters are to be complimented for another well-organised event which kicked off with a street cruise the prior evening. The Dunedin club's annual big-day-out was reasonably well attended this year despite clashing with several other popular events. A diverse range of entries, encouraged by the excellent weather, continued to arrive at St Kilda's Hancock Park until mid-afternoon. From bikes to trucks and everything in between, there was plenty to entertain the steady stream of spectators, many of whom were in family groups. The children particularly, enjoyed the lolly-scramble and mini fire-engine rides happening throughout the day. Topped off with a good range of refreshments on sale, what more could a great day out require.



With the weather playing friendly, top-down convertibles were encouraged to have a day out such as Karen McInnes, seen here cruising into Hancock Park in her gorgeous 1957 T-Bird. At the end of day prizegiving, Karen collected the People's Choice Trophy (provided by USA Day sponsor Action Engineering) for her T-Bird.



This 1940 Ford Tudor was a stand-out exhibit and not just because of the colour. Michael Jones's recent import from the USA is exquisitely detailed with its graphics and pinstriping.



Prepping their 1996 Grand Sport Corvette for the day's show are Beverly and Eric Ross from Dunedin. This particular C4 was the first one produced of only 1000, all of which were this specific blue.



Trying out land speed car The Kiwi Coupe's cockpit for size is 12-year-old Riley Roberts from Dunedin. The 1934 Plymouth Coupe is heading back to Bonneville this coming August with plans to improve on the 220.018 mph which was achieved there in 2018.



Impressing all the long-roof fans was Wayne Nicol's cool 1958 Edsel Villager Wagon.



Displaying beautiful lines from whichever angle you view Jenni and Bruce Wright's 1935 Ford Coupe, which was parked up in the Hurricane's club display.



Another in the Hurricane's line-up was Roger Galloway's 1930 Ford Model A Roadster pickup.



When is a Rat Rod not a Rat Rod? When it is a Rat Wagon. Then again, it could be a Jalopy. No matter what you want to call it, this eye-catching exhibit belongs to David Jeffery from Wingatui.



Catching the afternoon sunlight, Stu Cook's 1929 Chev pickup looked pristine and was justifiably awarded a Top 10 Trophy.



ABOVE & BELOW: Another impressive turnout by Dunedin's Conrodders Rod and Custom Club ensured they collected the Club Display trophy once again. Included in their line-up was Graham Fitzpatrick's 1934 Ford pickup and Paul Corey's latest ride, this sublime 1934 Ford Coupe.



Another couple of Conrodders heading home in the late afternoon sun were Gary Scott in his daily driver, 1927 Essex and Kevin Patrick, complete with safety head-wear, in his Roadster pickup rat-rod.



Auckland Invasion

Masterton Motorplex, February 15-16 2020



Bob George originally from California has a pretty nice '70 Duster running a 440 with a 1050 Holley it ran a 10.6@123mph

From John Faulkner

MASTERTON'S Auckland Invasion is when a bunch of Auckland racers make the long trip south to Masterton's International Dragway along with a bunch of rowdy supporters always cheering on their guys and girls. Quite a few have visited and raced before, and a few were first-timers. Most come away with personal best times, and some were very lucky not to wreck their cars. Also, a bunch from down south turned up, most having raced at the track before and aiming for more PB.

A total of 188 vehicles entered which wasn't as many as last year. Nine Top Alcohol cars, seven Top Doorslammers, six Competition Eliminator, 12 Modifieds, 17 Supercharged Outlaws, 45 Super Sedan, 40-odd Super Street and the rest of the field made up of bikes and junior dragsters

The weather gods played their best hand with very hot temps on Saturday. The track had been prepared well; the crowds were out in force lining the fence and packing



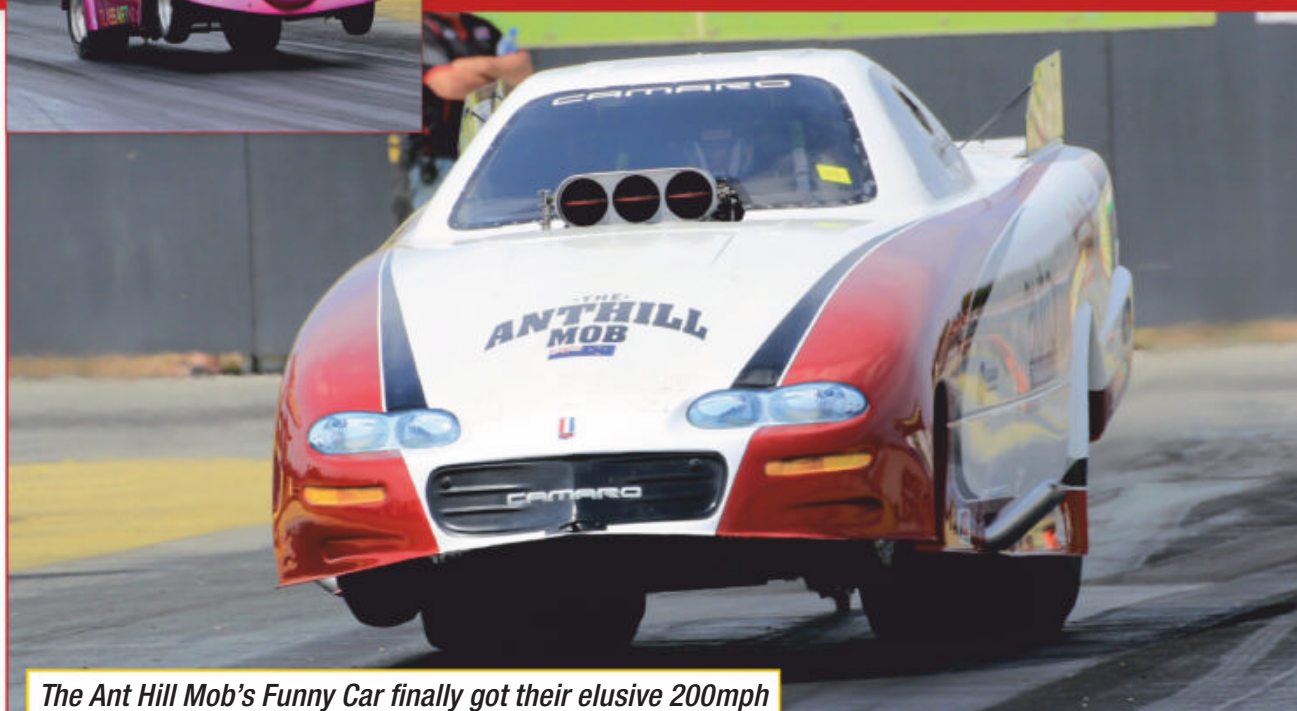
Brent Whittingham destroying his new wheelie bars. The new slicks he installed not working properly. The car sustained a lot of damage before Christmas when it took flight big time. Brent will be back; he loves to do big burnouts and wild launches.



Rhys Harrison's '68 Camaro powered by a 502 big block is a regular at Masterton pulling the wheels every run. His best et was 9.74@137mph.



David du Toit from South Africa and now living in Tauranga has one wild '61 VW. It's powered by a 13b Mazda rotary and heads for the sky on launch. Then it was all over the track, and after some help with the rear from another racer he ran a pretty straight 8.4 @160mph



The Ant Hill Mob's Funny Car finally got their elusive 200mph in the high 6s. Well worth the long journey from down south.



Jerry Rose has been racing his Topolino for 23 years now. Powered by a Hilborn injected Dart 400ci smallblock. Best to date 8.622@152mph



Tamara Silk is still chasing that elusive 5-second run. Her best of the weekend was a 6.06 @ 215 mph.

the stands. They were in for some great racing with wheelstands galore, sideways passes, big long smokey burnouts, great side-by-side racing and some hairy moments.

Unfortunately, there were a few hold-ups: there were no start line breakages or major oil-downs but enough to make some spectators leave. On the scary side of racing, Mark Vincent in his Top Alcohol dragster got a bit sideways crossing the finish line and was very lucky not to roll. His chutes didn't deploy, and consequently, he hit the sand trap at speed. Mark now has the record for longest distance travelled into the sand. Luckily there was a big tractor to pull him out, but racing was finished for him because the trans had let go.

Wayne Curry in his blown Altered is one very lucky racer. The Altered was leaving the line with wheels in the air, and after coming to ground-up they came again, even the rears were in the air. On his last pass on Saturday, he suffered massive tyre shake across the finish line, and the right rear wheel cried "enough" and snapped off, hitting the right side of the track bouncing across the track and ending up on the return road. Driver Wayne thought he had just got a flat tyre until he turned the corner and finally realised something was not right and the car was done for the weekend.

Sunday was another cracker day with many fans suffering sunburns from Saturday the crowd wasn't the same. Perhaps they had seen everything they wanted on Saturday, but those who returned were in for some even higher wheelstands and more fast racing.



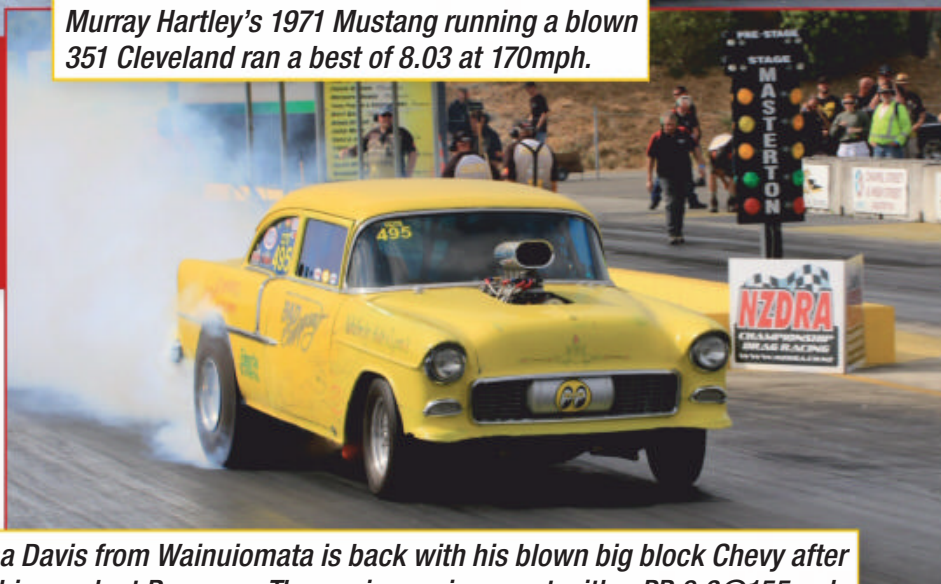
Greg Fuge from Wellington just about stood the Camaro on the back bumper on one of his runs. He ran low 9s at close on 150mph.



Kurt Goddin in his '70 Nova sure does like doing long burnouts. He ended up runner-up in Super Sedan with a PB 8.8@153mph



Murray Hartley's 1971 Mustang running a blown 351 Cleveland ran a best of 8.03 at 170mph.



Rana Davis from Wainuiomata is back with his blown big block Chevy after his big crash at Ruapuna. The car is running great with a PB 8.6@155mph

RESULTS

Driver	ET	MPH
TOP ALCOHOL		
Anthony Marsh	5.382	271.77
Chris Johnston	5.477	259.41

C1 - TOP DOORSLAMMER

Barry Plumptre		
Adam Prestney	6.900	190.12
	6.991	198.10

C2 - COMPETITION

Nicole Rivers	6.906	193.92
Mike Coward	9.376	4.80

C3 - MODIFIED

Stuart Minchington	8.338	159.13
Ross & Shane Windley		

C4 - SUPERCHARGED OUTLAWS

Stephen Milliken	7.50	64.999
Clinton & Bill Minchington	6.78	64.999

C7 - TOP STREET

Scott Tolhurst	9.118	151.65
Roger Binnema	9.252	109.83

C8 - SUPER STREET

Chris Sherwin	14.929	94.76
Steve Amrein	13.093	3.44

C9 - COMPETITION BIKE

Jock van Niekerk	9.242	133.02
Colin Johnson	10.025	141.69

C10 - SUPER SEDAN

Matt Gibbons	8.995	153.82
Kurt Goodin	9.023	4.99

C11 - MODIFIED BIKE

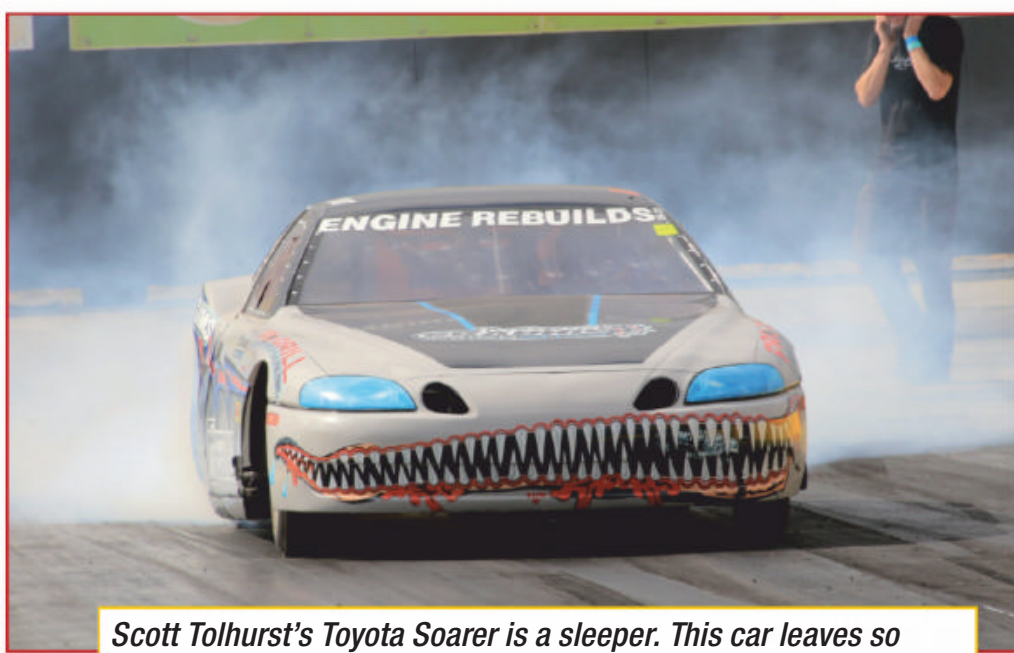
Jock van Niekerk	9.218	4.88
Peter Wald	11.113	134.40

C12 - JUNIOR DRAGSTER

Tyler Neiman	8.020	79.88
Brooklyn Hedley	10.311	60.96



Vanessa Lilly's new ride after being purchased from Aussie 9 months ago. The Altered has gone through a major rebuild but suffered a blown head gasket on Saturday and was on the trailer. Big things to come once it's sorted.



Scott Tolhurst's Toyota Soarer is a sleeper. This car leaves so quietly but hauls ass and won Top Street with a 9.118@151.65mph



Steve Carlson's '64 Falcon Sprint has gone through some major changes over the winter months. It now runs a Brad Anderson 521 with a 16-71 blower, a quick drive with BJ 3-speed to a 9-inch diff. Steve is still sorting the combo; watch this car.



The finals of Top Alcohol: Chris Johnson right lane and Anthony Marsh in the left. It was a very close race with Anthony winning with a 5.382@271.77mph to Chris's losing 5.477@259.41mph.



Barry Plumpton won over Adam Prestly with a 6.900@190.12 over a 6.991 @198.10 the turbo car hauling at the top end.

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Upcoming EVENTS

Attention:

Due to the pandemic and subsequent government ban on events and gatherings exceeding 500 people there has been an unprecedented number of postponements and cancellations. We're keeping abreast of a fast-moving situation and have reflected all changes to the status of Upcoming Events we are aware of. If you see your event listed here as live and on and the status has changed to postponed or cancelled then please let us know asap. Stay with us as we bring you more as they come to hand.

APRIL

- > **4 Nostalgia Drags** hosted by Bay Rodders at Meremere Dragway. **CANCELLED**
- > **5 Classic Cover Insurance and Bay Rodders Club Champs.** **CANCELLED**
- > **5 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin.** Meet at Ice Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models, American, Euro, Jappa, Aussie, trucks and bikes too. Bring your own lunch or buy on the day. Contact Paul: 027 238 1848 or follow on Facebook "Mates Car Cruise"
- > **5 Rodder's Breakfast** at Larfin' Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin' Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.
- > **5 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast** at Caroline's Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade, Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.
- > **5 Wild West Breakfast** on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.
- > **5 Classic Car Meet and Classic Boot Sale** at Classics Museum, 11 Rail Side Place, Hamilton from 8.00-10.00. All makes and models welcome. Monthly cash prizes awarded. Buffet Breakfast available.
- > **5 Frankton Thunder** in Hamilton.
- > **5 Auckland All Ford Day** at Smales Farm Takapuna, vehicle entry from 8.30, prizegiving at 1pm.
- > **12 Long Beach Hi-Performance Swapmeet,** California. Call 001 714 557 5979
- > **17-19 10th Annual Weekend Run** hosted by Kiwitown Cruisers.
- > **18 Cromwell Swapmeet and Classic Car Display** hosted by Alpine Street Machines at Hynds, 25 McNulty Rd, Cromwell. Gates open from 6am for setup and 9am for public.
- > **18 Comp Fun Day** at Meremere Dragway. **CANCELLED**
- > **18 Rev Up** in Whangarei. This year will see the largest Rev Up Whangarei event to date with a huge range of vehicles on display. Many thanks to the team of volunteers and amazing sponsors, If you'd like to be the first in the know about the Rev Up Whangarei 2020 please make sure to like their Facebook page. Registrations will open 2nd December 2020 at www.revupwhangarei.co.nz
- > **19 Mid West Rodders Breakfast** at Columbus Café, Mitre 10 Mega, Northwest Shopping Centre. For

information, contact Alan Walker (027)496 7072.

- > **19 NSDW Fun Day** at Meremere Dragway. **CANCELLED**
- > **19 Kruise the Park,** Pukekohe.
- > **26 Classic Car Meet And Classic Boot Sale** at Classics Museum, 11 Rail Side Place, Hamilton from 8.00-10.00. All makes and models welcome. Monthly cash prizes awarded. Buffet Breakfast available.
- > **26 Caffeine & Classics,** **CANCELLED** until further notice.

MAY

- > **2-3 Marineland Run.**
- > **3 Rodder's Breakfast** at Larfin' Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin' Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.
- > **3 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast** at Caroline's Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade, Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.
- > **3 Wild West Breakfast** on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.
- > **3 Classic Car Meet And Classic Boot Sale** at Classics Museum, 11 Rail Side Place, Hamilton from 8.00-10.00. All makes and models welcome. Monthly cash prizes awarded. Buffet Breakfast available.
- > **3 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin.** Meet at Ice Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models, American, Euro, Jappa, Aussie, trucks and bikes too. Bring your own lunch or buy on the day. Contact Paul: 027 238 1848 or follow on Facebook "Mates Car Cruise"
- > **10 Long Beach Hi-Performance Swapmeet,** California. Call 001 714 557 5979
- > **15-16 Nitro Revival** will return to Irwindale Dragstrip and promises to be bigger and better than ever! Welcome day is Friday 15th at the In-N-Out burger truck. Saturday's main event honours memories of San Gabriel and Irwindale drag racing and features cackle cars, Hall of Fame all-stars reunion, vintage 1/8th mile racing and a Hot Rod Hangout (Pre '73). www.nitrorevival.com
- > **16-17 Road Knights Inc will be having a 40th Anniversary Run.** All past members are invited to participate by contacting the president, Stuart Preston on 0272 148 670.
- > **17 Mid West Rodders Breakfast** at Columbus Café, Mitre 10 Mega, Northwest Shopping Centre. For information, contact Alan Walker (027)496 7072.
- > **31 Caffeine & Classics,** **CANCELLED** until further notice.

JUNE

- > **3-7 Coolie Rocks on,** Australia.
- > **6-7 New Plymouth Rodders club is looking for all previous members to join them for their 50th Anniversary** get together on 6th and 7th of June 2020. The celebrations include a rod run on Saturday, dinner drinks and dance Saturday night. Contact NPR50th@gmail.com for info.
- > **7 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin.** Meet at Ice Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models, American, Euro, Jappa, Aussie, trucks and bikes too. Bring your own lunch or buy on the day. Contact Paul: 027 238 1848 or follow on Facebook "Mates Car Cruise"
- > **7 Rodder's Breakfast** at Larfin' Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin' Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.
- > **7 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast** at Caroline's

Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade, Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.

- > **7 Wild West Breakfast** on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.
- > **7 Classic Car Meet And Classic Boot Sale** at Classics Museum, 11 Rail Side Place, Hamilton from 8.00-10.00. All makes and models welcome. Monthly cash prizes awarded. Buffet Breakfast available.
- > **14 Long Beach Hi-Performance Swapmeet,** California. Call 001 714 557 5979
- > **19-21 Back to the Fifties,** St Paul Minnesota. Info at www.msrbacktothe50s.com
- > **19-21 LA Roadster Show,** Pomona, California.
- > **21 Mid West Rodders Breakfast** at Columbus Café, Mitre 10 Mega, Northwest Shopping Centre. For information, contact Alan Walker (027)496 7072.
- > **28 Caffeine & Classics,** **CANCELLED** until further notice.

JULY

- > **4 Independence Day run.** Leaving Beaumont Street at 7.30pm cruising around the waterfront to St Heliers for a park-up. Hot coffee avail. (money raised goes to local charities) Fireworks at about 8.30pm then clean up and head home.
- > **5 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin.** Meet at Ice Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models, American, Euro, Jappa, Aussie, trucks and bikes too. Bring your own lunch or buy on the day. Contact Paul: 027 238 1848 or follow on Facebook "Mates Car Cruise"
- > **5 Rodder's Breakfast** at Larfin' Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin' Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.
- > **5 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast** at Caroline's Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade, Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.
- > **5 Wild West Breakfast** on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.
- > **5 Classic Car Meet And Classic Boot Sale** at Classics Museum, 11 Rail Side Place, Hamilton from 8.00-10.00. All makes and models welcome. Monthly cash prizes awarded. Buffet Breakfast available.
- > **12 Long Beach Hi-Performance Swapmeet,** California. Call 001 714 557 5979
- > **18 Mid Winter Run & Grasskhana** hosted by Whangarei Rod & Custom Club at One Tree Point Youth Camp, Marsden Point.
- > **19 Mid West Rodders Breakfast** at Columbus Café, Mitre 10 Mega, Northwest Shopping Centre. For information, contact Alan Walker (027)496 7072.
- > **26 Caffeine & Classics,** **CANCELLED** until further notice.
- > **30-Aug 2 Hot Rod-A-Rama** at the Oregon Grain Growers Distillery in Pendleton, Oregon. The premiere Pre '65 Hot Rod & Custom Car Show on the USA's west coast. Info at www.hotrodarama.us.

AUGUST

- > **1 Palmerston North Swapmeet.**
- > **1-2 Hot Rod-A-Rama** at the Oregon Grain Growers Distillery in Pendleton, Oregon. The premiere Pre '65 Hot Rod & Custom Car Show on the USA's west coast. Info at www.hotrodarama.us.
- > **2 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin.** Meet at Ice Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models,



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> 2 Long Beach Hi-Performance

Swapmeet, California. Call 001 714 557 5979

> 2 Rodder's Breakfast at Larfin'

Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin'

Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.

> 2 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast at Caroline's

Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade,

Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.

> 2 Wild West Breakfast on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.

> 16 Mid West Rodders Breakfast at Columbus

Café, Mitre 10 Mega, Northwest Shopping Centre. For information, contact Alan Walker (027)496 7072.

> 16 Zone 2 Memorial Run, Auckland.

> 30 Caffeine & Classics,

CANCELLED until further notice.

SEPTEMBER

> 6 Father's Day Drags hosted by the

American Muscle Car Club at Meremere Dragway.

Info at www.meremeredragway.co.nz

> 6 Camping Weekend hosted by

Whitestone Rod & Restorers at Danseys Pass

Camping Ground, Livingstone, North Otago

> 6 Rodder's Breakfast at Larfin'

Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin'

Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.

> 6 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast at Caroline's

Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade,

Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.

> 6 Wild West Breakfast on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.

> 6 Classic Car Meet And Classic Boot Sale

at Classics Museum, 11 Rail Side Place, Hamilton from

8.00-10.00. All makes and models welcome. Monthly

cash prizes awarded. Buffet Breakfast available.

> 6 Rocknwheelsmeets 10th Anniversary

at the Amberley Domain from 9am 'til 4pm.

If it's wheels and you love it - bring it along!

For more information email Rocknwheelsmeet@yahoo.com

> 6 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin. Meet at Ice

Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for

an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models,

American, Euro, Jappa, Aussie, trucks and bikes too. Bring

your own lunch or buy on the day. Contact Paul: 027

238 1848 or follow on Facebook "Mates Car Cruise"

> 13 Long Beach Hi-Performance

Swapmeet, California. Call 001 714 557 5979

> 17-20 Kaikoura Hop.

> 20 Mid West Rodders Breakfast at Columbus

Café, Mitre 10 Mega, Northwest Shopping Centre. For

information, contact Alan Walker (027)496 7072.

> 22 Fathers Day Drags rain date at Meremere

Dragway. Info at www.meremeredragway.co.nz

> 27 Caffeine & Classics,

CANCELLED until further notice.

OCTOBER

> 2-4 NZHRA National Hot Rod Show hosted

by Cam County Inc at Walter Nash Stadium, Lower Hutt

> 3 Te Aroha Cruise In.

> 4 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin. Meet at Ice

Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for

an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models, American, Euro, Jappa, Aussie, trucks and bikes too. Bring your own lunch or buy on the day. Contact Paul: 027 238 1848 or follow on Facebook "Mates Car Cruise"

> 4 Rodder's Breakfast at Larfin'

Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin'

Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.

> 4 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast at Caroline's

Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade,

Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.

> 4 Wild West Breakfast on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.

> 4 Classic Car Meet And Classic Boot Sale

at Classics Museum, 11 Rail Side Place, Hamilton from

8.00-10.00. All makes and models welcome. Monthly

cash prizes awarded. Buffet Breakfast available.

> 11 Long Beach Hi-Performance

Swapmeet, California. Call 001 714 557 5979

> 11 Coffee and Cars at Southward Car

Museum, 250 Otaihang Rd, Paraparaumu

from 10am 'til pm. Ph 04 297 1221.

> 18 Mid West Rodders Breakfast at Columbus

Café, Mitre 10 Mega, Northwest Shopping Centre. For

information, contact Alan Walker (027) 496 7072.

> 20 Rod Run hosted by Con-Rodders at

Carnforth Street, Green Island, Dunedin.

> 23-26 NZHRA Street Rod Nationals

hosted by Bay Rodders from HQ at 6 Cherokee Place,

Tauranga. Book your accommodation now as that

weekend is very busy for motels. Some onsite camping

will be available, entry forms will out early 2020.

> 25 Caffeine & Classics,

CANCELLED until further notice.

NOVEMBER

> 1 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin. Meet at Ice

Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for

an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models,

American, Euro, Jappa, Aussie, trucks and bikes too. Bring

your own lunch or buy on the day. Contact Paul: 027

238 1848 or follow on Facebook "Mates Car Cruise"

> 1 Swap Meet hosted by the Road

Knights at Taupiri School, Taupiri

> 1 Rodder's Breakfast at Larfin'

Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin'

Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.

> 1 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast at Caroline's

Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade,

Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.

> 1 Wild West Breakfast on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.

> 1 Classic Car Meet and Classic Boot Sale

at Classics Museum, 11 Rail Side Place, Hamilton from

8.00-10.00. All makes and models welcome. Monthly

cash prizes awarded. Buffet Breakfast available.

> 3-6 SEMA Show, Las Vegas, Nevada.

> 8 Long Beach Hi-Performance

Swapmeet, California. Call 001 714 557 5979

> 8 Coffee and Cars at Southward Car

Museum, 250 Otaihang Rd, Paraparaumu

from 10am 'til pm. Ph 04 297 1221.

> 13-15 Big Boys Toys and

Speedshow. www.speedshow.co.nz

> 15 Mid West Rodders Breakfast at Columbus Café,

Mitre 10 Mega, Northwest Shopping Centre. For

information, contact Alan Walker (027)496 7072.

> 25-29 Beach Hop.

> 29 Caffeine & Classics,

CANCELLED until further notice.

DECEMBER

> 6 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin. Meet at Ice

Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for

an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models,

American, Euro, Jappa, Aussie, trucks and bikes too. Bring

your own lunch or buy on the day. Contact Paul: 027

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> 6 Rodder's Breakfast at Larfin'

Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin'

Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.

> 6 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast at Caroline's

Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade,

Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.

> 6 Wild West Breakfast on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.

> 6 Classic Car Meet And Classic Boot Sale

at Classics Museum, 11 Rail Side Place, Hamilton from

8.00-10.00. All makes and models welcome. Monthly

cash prizes awarded. Buffet Breakfast available.

> 7 Toy Run, Auckland.

> 13 Long Beach Hi-Performance

Swapmeet, California. Call 001 714 557 5979

> 13 Coffee and Cars at Southward Car

Museum, 250 Otaihang Rd, Paraparaumu

from 10am 'til pm. Ph 04 297 1221.

> 20 Mid West Rodders Breakfast at Columbus

Café, Mitre 10 Mega, Northwest Shopping Centre. For

information, contact Alan Walker (027)496 7072.

> 27 Caffeine & Classics,

CANCELLED until further notice.

2021 JANUARY

> 3 Black Swamp Run Mangawhai.

> 3 Mates Car Cruise Dunedin. Meet at Ice

Stadium car park, Victoria St, Dunedin at 10.30 for

an 11 am departure. Open to all makes and models,

American, Euro, Jappa, Aussie, trucks and bikes too. Bring

your own lunch or buy on the day. Contact Paul: 027

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> 3 Rodder's Breakfast at Larfin'

Tiger hosted by Hustlers R&C at Larfin'

Tiger Café, Seaview from 9 'til 11 am.

> 3 Gas Guzzlers Breakfast at Caroline's

Boatshed Bar & Eatery 181 Somme Parade,

Aramoho, Wanganui from 9 am.

> 3 Wild West Breakfast on Lincoln Rd, Henderson.

> 15-17 Kumeu Hot Rod & Classic Car Show.

> 22-24 Muscle Car Madness #31.

> 22-25 Surf City Rod and Custom Club,

Gisborne is turning 50 in December. They are celebrating

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to celebrate with them to register their interest in

attending via the club email. surfcityrodandcustom@gmail.com,

or by mail to PO Box 677 Gisborne. Entries

for all NZHRA members will be available soon.

> 29-31 Grand National Roadster

Show, Pomona, California.

> 31 Caffeine & Classics,

CANCELLED until further notice.

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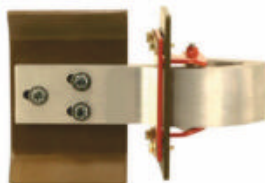
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Industry NEWS

AUTOTRANS LIMITED

► Under new Management

"AFTER 45 years since we started Auto Trans Ltd Christine and I have decided to take a break, and we have sold the business to Bou Barry, who many of you may know. Bou is from Auckland Automatics and has been in the Automotive Industry for 25 years and comes with a great depth of knowledge and passion for the industry and we are very happy to be handing over the reins to him. Bou's first day of trading will be March 3rd, 2020, and he will be in contact with you then. We would like to take this opportunity to say we have enjoyed the business relationship we have developed with many of you over these years and we will miss you all. Thank you and best wishes".

Kevin and Christine Cairns, Directors, Auto Trans Ltd.

► Triple Deuces

IN addition to the personal Brookville roadster and another client's Deuce Customs bodied five-window coupe, GMS Hot Rods also has another '32 Ford underway for another client. The Deuce Customs three-window coupe body came from Rods by Reid and underneath it is a complete GMS Hot Rods chassis starting with American Stamping Rails and Flatout Engineering boxing plates. Once in the inhouse chassis jig, GMS then fitted in a flattened Model A style front crossmember and a Pete & Jakes tubular centre section to accept the SB Ford engine and Tremec five-speed. Front suspension is a fully chromed and polished Super Bell/Pete & Jakes unit with a Johns Industries Ford 9" rear on triangulated four bars. The theme for this car is a sixties/seventies hiboy hence the Halibrand and ET style wheels. Once the steering is hooked up and the Pete & Jakes pedal box fitted, the car then goes home to its owner as a roller for completion. As an authorised New Zealand dealer for Pete & Jakes Hot Rod Parts, GMS Hot Rods has used many of their quality and proven components in this car to a good result.

For more information please call 021 955 459 or email gregstokes1932@gmail.com or visit GMS Hot Rods on Facebook.



Toolbox TALES

Fastest guitar in the east

From John Eva

IT'S October 2019 as I write, and local New Brighton icon Kenny Ackroyd died yesterday, after being hospitalised in August from a suspected stroke, although it has since been suggested it was a likely aorta problem. That's social media for you. Sometimes you don't know what to believe. Whatever Kenny never came home.

Kenny Ackroyd wasn't a hot rodder, but many rodders knew him. He was a guitar legend, best known for his frantic fretwork in top Christchurch bar band Smokin' Jacket. And there's the 'hot rod connection'. Smokin' Jacket played at many Muscle Car Madness events, and they were a top drawcard. On a good night, Smokin' Jacket sounded like they'd been strapped to the nose-cone of a ballistic missile and blasted into orbit. But Kenny had been in bands since the '70s, Freshwater spring to mind, building a reputation and gaining a big following on the pub scene.

In the early '70s, Kenny Ackroyd, reminiscent of a big grizzly bear in a gypsy suit, or vice versa, travelled to Mexico for an extended period. He saw Led Zeppelin live in California ("Their solos were about 30 minutes long, maaan!" he enthused), and Kenny later played with a Catalina Island house band which included former John Mayall drummer Ainsley Dunbar, who later drummed with Frank Zappa, Jefferson Airplane and Journey. With a bit of good luck and fortuitous timing, those same openings might have happened for Kenny, who had talent in spades. Whatever, by 1974 Kenny was back in Christchurch driving a truck for



2008, Kenny jamming at The Garage with Robert Eva (photo by proud dad).



Smokin' Jacket at Muscle Car Madness 1994. Kenny on the left.



Elapsed Times of The Garage, sign written by Gonk, 2019.

Dominion Yarns, which is when a teenage yours-truly, in a first postschool job as a storeman, first met Kenny.

He drove his truck wearing shades, leather jacket and leather gloves, with rings on each finger on the outside of the gloves. Starstruck teen that I was, I couldn't help but be impressed. He told me he was in a band, but I can't recall their name, and of his overseas experiences and Led Zeppelin show. Man! He was like a hero to me, up there with Don Garlits and Rob Campbell. Mainly for his rock guitar, but as it happens, over the years he became an accomplished classical player, blues and steel guitar player, tutor, and his Spanish Flamenco playing was simply jaw-dropping.

We found this out in the noughties, when Kenny frequented The Garage, often bringing a guitar and playing an 'impromptu' gig, others sometimes joining in for a jam. At the time, Kenny liked a beer or six, so I'd pick him up at his 'mansion on the hill' (actually a bach on a sand dune) on a Thursday for a Garage gathering. "Awww maaan," he'd say, "I love your car. It reminds me of a Bonnie and Clyde car!" I had to chuckle, as Kenny was correct but

probably didn't even know it. Bonnie and Clyde were indeed shot up in a '34 Ford. Lynne used to love getting a hug from Kenny. Like a big teddy bear.

His 'mansion on the hill' caused much humour in the neighbourhood. Even before the earthquakes, we used to worry that Kenny's house was at risk of falling over. Yet it survived all the shakes, Kenny even commenting, 'every time there's an aftershock, my chimney shakes and fills my kitchen up with soot. I feel like I've fallen down a manhole in Calcutta!'

The pub scene changed, Smokin' Jacket sort of stopped smokin', but such was their reputation as being a top-shelf band, each time they'd reunite for a one-off show, such as Muscle Car Madness, hundreds would gather to see them. They were always hot stuff, even when they hadn't performed for a long period. Kenny was often spotted around New Brighton, maybe shopping, buying a 6-pack, doing a lo-ke gig at the local surf club, or playing the pokies at The Wave Bar. Many Muscle Car Madness participants will remember Kenny and Smokin' Jacket.

There are some days that insist on kicking you between the legs. Thursday 3rd October 2019 was one of those days. The world has just lost a major talent. And they probably didn't even know it. But the New Brighton neighbourhood certainly knew it, as did many others. Make sure you support local talent.

If Kenny Ackroyd's passing isn't the end of an era, then it's pretty close. Adios mate. Thanks for the memories.



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